

Britain to sell huge gas utility

LONDON (R) — The British government said Tuesday it would sell the state gas utility to private investors in what may be the world's biggest stock market flotation. The sale, the most ambitious step in the Conservative government's campaign to roll back the frontiers of state ownership, was expected to take place next year. Energy Minister Peter Walker, announcing the decision, did not specify a price, but unofficial estimates of the value of the British Gas Corporation range from £4 to £8 billion (\$5 to \$10 billion). That compares with the record £3.9 billion (\$4.7 billion) raised last November when the government sold half of British Telecom amid a frenzy of public demand. Mr. Walker told parliament Tuesday: "The time has come for a further major step in the transfer of state industry to the private sector."

Jordan Times

An independent daily political publication
Jordanian Times: مؤسسة الجريدة الأردنية

Bandung meeting briefed on Mideast

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian delegation to the Bandung conference in Indonesia presented a working paper featuring the Middle East question and the role of the Non-Aligned Movement to help bring about a just and comprehensive settlement to the Palestine problem. Walid Salah, who headed the delegation, said here Tuesday. Speaking upon his return to Amman, Mr. Salah said the working paper emphasized the importance of the Jordanian-Palestinian accord signed in Amman on Feb. 11 as a significant step towards peace and called on non-aligned nations to support it. He said that the delegations to the conference stressed the fact that there can be no real and durable peace in the Middle East unless Israel withdraws its forces from all Arab territories occupied since 1967, including Arab Jerusalem.

Volume 10 Number 2864

AMMAN, WEDNESDAY MAY 8, 1985, SHABAN 16, 1405

Prices: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

21 Israeli suicides in Lebanon since '82

TEL AVIV (R) — A total of 21 Israeli soldiers have committed suicide in Lebanon since the 1982 invasion and the stress of military duty in the volatile south was partly responsible, Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Tuesday. Mr. Rabin disclosed in parliament Monday that 12 soldiers had killed themselves in Lebanon in 1982 and 1983. Last year, he said, nine troops had committed suicide there (Israel imposes new restrictions in Lebanon, page 2).

Egypt proposes Taba talks in Giza

CAIRO (R) — Egypt Tuesday proposed May 14 as a date to resume talks with Israel on the disputed Sinai coastal strip of Taba, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said. The spokesman said Egypt proposed to hold the talks in the Cairo suburb of Giza. Israel's response was not immediately known.

Israel offers \$1m reward for Mengele

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel offered a \$1 million reward Tuesday for bringing Josef Mengele, the most wanted Nazi criminal still free, to trial in Israel. Justice Minister Moshe Nissim, announcing the reward in parliament, said Mengele's capture would combat "expressions of conciliation and forgiveness" toward the Nazis. He made it clear he was referring to President Ronald Reagan's visit Sunday to the German war cemetery at Bitburg. It was the first time Israel put a price on the head of a Nazi war criminal.

Assad receives Sudanese message

DAMASCUS (AP) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad on Tuesday held talks with two senior Sudanese officials on a visit here for the first time in eight years. The official Syrian Arab News Agency (SANA) said the Sudanese delegation consisted of Major-General Youssef Al Gali and Maj.-Gen. Abdul Aziz Hamad, both members of the 15-man ruling military council which overthrew President Jaafar Numeiri last month. SANA said the delegation delivered a message to Mr. Assad from Sudan's strongman Gen. Abdul Rahman Swaroudahab. Contents of the message were not disclosed (Libyan leader calls for unity with Sudan, page 2).

Heart patient's condition steadies

LOUISVILLE, Kentucky (R) — William Schroeder, the world's longest living artificial heart recipient, was undergoing tests Tuesday to determine if the brain haemorrhage which caused him to be readmitted to hospital has stopped, his doctors said. Mr. Schroeder "stabilised during the night," the Humana Heart Institute International said. The only artificial heart patient ever to be discharged from hospital, he was readmitted Monday night. He had been living for the past month in a two-bedroom flat with his wife across the street from the institute.

King returns from Gulf, holds talks with Arafat

PLO leader, joint delegation leave for Peking today

By Salamah B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein returned home Tuesday after brief visits to Kuwait and Bahrain and met with Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat who arrived here earlier for a short visit to Jordan.

No details were revealed on the talks, which were expected to centre on the next step in joint Jordanian-Palestinian moves within the framework of the Feb. 11 Jordan-PLO agreement aimed at reaching a peaceful settlement to the Palestinian question.

Mr. Arafat, who leaves Amman for Peking Wednesday with a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation for talks with Chinese leaders, arrived from Khartoum at Queen Alia International Airport and was among those who received the King at the Amman military airport shortly afterwards.

During his visit to Kuwait and Bahrain, the King, who was accompanied by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasbi, held talks on Jordan's coordinated moves with the PLO to reach a peaceful settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

His talks also centred on "the overall Arab position and the assessment of the current situation in the light of Arab and international

developments," the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, reported.

Mr. Arafat, who will head the Palestinian side of the joint delegation to visit China to rally support for Jordanian-Palestinian political moves, said the Feb. 11 agreement "needs the support of our friends in the world to liberate the occupied territories."

The joint delegation, which was named last month after talks between Mr. Arafat and King Hussein, comprises of Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh and Foreign Minister Taher Masri representing Jordan and PLO Executive Committee member Brigadier Abdul Razak Al Yahya and the deputy military commander of the PLO, Khalil Al Wazir.

The Feb. 11 accord calls for an Israeli withdrawal from all Arab territories occupied during the 1967 Arab-Israeli war and the establishment of a Palestinian state confederated with Jordan in exchange for peace with Israel. It also calls for the convening of an international peace conference

on the Middle East under United Nations auspices with the participation of all parties involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Upon arrival in Amman, Mr. Arafat told reporters that "the Americans are still ignoring facts in the Middle East and the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination."

He criticised the U.S., saying that Washington "looks at the Palestinian problem from a narrow perspective which is biased in Israel's favour."

He said that the rejection by Israel and the U.S. of the call to an international conference "reflects the insincerity of intentions to achieve peace in the Middle East, to solve the Palestinian problem and to guarantee Palestinian rights."

Later on Tuesday, the King and Mr. Arafat continued their talks at a meeting held at Al Nadwa Palace. No details were available on the talks.

Mr. Arafat's arrival in Amman came few days before a planned visit to the region by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, who is expected to arrive in Amman Sunday for talks with King Hussein on possibilities for starting a U.S. dialogue with a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation as a prelude to direct Arab-Israeli negotiations.

It also came before a scheduled visit to Washington by the King later this month for talks with U.S. leaders on the same issue.

Mr. Arafat said at the airport:

"We were hoping the United States would make a positive step forwards after the signing of the Palestinian-Jordanian joint action agreement."

In Kuwait, the King met with the emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah and then flew to Bahrain where he met with Sheikh Issa Ibn Salman Al Khalifah. The King briefed the two leaders on joint Jordanian-Palestinian moves in the international arena and efforts to rally support for the moves.

In Tunis, Palestinian sources were quoted by Reuters as saying that delegations from Jordan and the PLO will soon be received separately by Soviet leaders. The sources said Moscow "preferred not to receive a joint delegation as was proposed."

The delegation was formed to spearhead a new diplomatic offensive for a Middle East peace settlement by contacting the permanent members of the United Nations Security Council.

The U.S. persistently rejected a proposal of holding talks with a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation including representatives of the PLO which Washington still does not recognise.

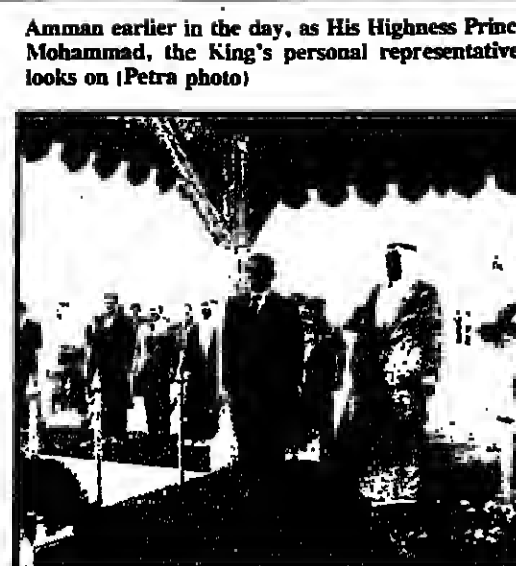
U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy made a tour in the region last month "to explore" prospects of holding such a dialogue. No reliable information was revealed on the results of his talks but it was then that Mr. Shultz's visit depended on Mr. Murphy's talks.



His Majesty King Hussein, who returned to Amman after brief visits to Kuwait and Bahrain, is greeted by Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, who arrived in Amman earlier in the day, as His Highness Prince Mohammad, the King's personal representative, looks on (Petra photo)



His Majesty King Hussein, who paid a brief visit to Kuwait on Monday, is received upon arrival by Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah (right) and by Sheikh Issa Ibn Salman Al Khalifah (left) upon his arrival Tuesday in Bahrain (Petra photos)



His Majesty King Hussein, who paid a brief visit to Kuwait on Monday, is received upon arrival by Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah (right) and by Sheikh Issa Ibn Salman Al Khalifah (left) upon his arrival Tuesday in Bahrain (Petra photos)

Lebanese politicians, army call for truce as escalated Beirut fighting claims 28

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Lebanon's main coalition of Christian political leaders called Tuesday for an end to militia fighting after overnight shelling killed at least 28 people and injured over 100 others in Beirut.

But one well-known Christian, ex-President Suleiman Franjeh, who is closely allied with Syria, called for the resignation of President Amin Gemayel, also a Christian.

The 15-hour duel across the "green line" battlefield was the longest bout of shelling between mainly-Muslim west and predominantly Christian east Beirut in more than a year. It died down Tuesday.

The army meanwhile called for a "durable ceasefire" among the warring militias Tuesday.

The "Voice of Lebanon" radio reported at least 2,500 shells and rockets hit east Beirut and its suburbs during the fierce night-long battles. Other radios said 600 mortar rounds hit west Beirut districts.

Police said 28 people were killed and more than 100 wounded in

the fighting along the "green line".

The six-man higher military council called for the truce when it met for the second day at the request of President Gemayel and Prime Minister Rashid Karameh.

A communiqué called on a "security committee" representing the army and the three main militias to meet at the Defence Ministry later Tuesday to hammer out a ceasefire on all fronts.

Mr. Franjeh told a press conference in North Lebanon Mr. Gemayel was either in collusion with militant leaders of the mostly Christian Falangist "Lebanese Forces" militia opposed to national reconciliation or was afraid to confront them. "In either case, he is not worthy of being president," Mr. Franjeh said.

In east Beirut, former cabinet minister Charles Malek said after a meeting of the Christian "Lebanese Front" coalition that it wanted to "save Lebanon from an alarming crisis."

Calling the past nine days of fighting in Beirut part of "a conspiracy against the Lebanese people, especially the Christians," Mr. Malek said the front would try to halt all fighting in Lebanon.

It was "seeking with all means at its disposal to halt the killing, destruction and displacement of people."

The front is dominated by the Falangist and National Liberal parties which were moving to support Syrian plans for national reconciliation before a revolt last month in the "Lebanese Forces" militia.

The militia last week called for national dialogue to end sectarian strife, although its new leader Samir Geagea has vowed to use force to avenge recent Falangist setbacks in southern Lebanon.

In Damascus, the government-run Tishrin newspaper linked the Beirut fighting to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz's planned Middle East tour, aimed at seeking steps that would lead to peace talks between Israel and the Arabs.

"The rebel clique under Samir Geagea has blown up the security

situation in Lebanon in an attempt to preoccupy the Lebanese national forces and divert Syria's attention" during Mr. Shultz's visit, expected this month, the newspaper said.

Hospital sources said at least 18 people were killed and at least 53 wounded in west Beirut and its suburbs in intense shelling until dawn.

Falangist radio reported five dead in East Beirut. More than 50 people have died since the Beirut fighting started nine days ago.

In South Lebanon, security forces told Reuters a Lebanese Red Cross officer was killed Monday night by sniper fire in the village of Lebna, east of Sidon, where the Israeli-backed "South Lebanon Army" (SLA) confronts Lebanese militias.

Residents said SLA fighters set fire to three houses in Aramata, near the SLA-held town of Jezzine.

More than 18,000 residents fled villages near Sidon last month after a militia assault on territory evacuated by the "Lebanese Forces."

Rabin concerned over new resistance 'tactic'

TEL AVIV (AP) — Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Tuesday a new tactic against Jewish settlers appeared to be emerging in the occupied West Bank and warned that Israel would find a way "to deal with it."

Mr. Rabin, speaking on a tour of Jewish settlements in the West Bank, made his comments a day after unknown men blew up a remote-controlled bomb as an Israeli bus was passing the Palestinian town of Qalqilyeh. There were no casualties or damage in the attack.

Mr. Rabin was referring to the method of detonating explosive charges from against Israeli vehicles a tactic used by anti-Israeli resistance forces in Lebanon but virtually unknown in the occupied West Bank.

"I think we should regard even primitive beginnings as dangerous and I am certain we will find a way of dealing with it," Mr. Rabin told reporters accompanying him.

Jewish settlement leader Benny Katzover said he had to "calm" the settlers and prevent them from going into the town "to demonstrate their presence," the daily Maariv reported.

It did not explain what Katzover meant, but quoted him as saying that in recent months there had been an escalation of Palestinian violence against the settlers.

In the past 10 days there have been sporadic attacks of stone-throwing and fire bombings on Israeli cars in the West Bank, and at least two settlers and one Palestinian have been injured. The military authorities have imposed several curfews on Palestinian refugee camps after some of the attacks.

The occupation authorities sealed off one of the main roads leading into the Balata refugee camp near the city of Nablus on Monday night to prevent Palestinian demonstrators from using it to stone passing Israeli cars, Israel Radio said.

Committee reviews Jerash Festival plans



AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Monday chaired a meeting at the Ma'wa Palace of the Jerash Festival Higher Committee to review preparations for the festival due to be held in July.

The committee reviewed reports on preparations on the site of the ancient Graeco-Roman city and contacts being made with various Arab and foreign troupes taking part in the festival.

Committee members expressed satisfaction with the zeal displayed by various organisations involved in the process of preparing for the festival and the institutions providing art performances, book exhibitions and traditional handicrafts, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said.

The committee approved the idea of hosting cultural and artistic activities from 20 Arab and friendly nations during the 16-day festival which begins on July 11.

Queen Noor voiced hope that more Arab culture will be represented in this year's festival and that the chance be offered to Jordanian expatriates to visit the Jerash Festival and so bolster their ties with their homeland.

The Queen passed directives to the festival's management and sub-committees to double their efforts with the aim of presenting the best possible performance of what is regarded as the major annual cultural event in the country, Petra said.

U.S.-Spanish differences remain after Reagan-Gonzalez meeting

MADRID (R) — President Reagan and Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez held talks on Central America, NATO, East-West affairs and bilateral relations Tuesday but acknowledged that they had failed to agree on some points.

In statements after a three-hour meeting over lunch, both referred to differences of view.

Before the meeting at the Moncloa government palace, Mr. Reagan had branded Nicaragua a "communist tyranny" in a remark that highlighted his disagreement with Mr. Gonzalez on Central America.

"My country will go on maintaining friendly and cordial relations with the United States despite differences in appreciation," Mr. Gonzalez said.

"Where there were differences I think we both profited from the particular perspectives we bring to the challenges we face," Mr. Reagan said.

The meeting on the second day of Mr. Reagan's 41-hour visit to Spain followed an announcement that Nicaraguan leader Daniel Ortega would meet Mr. Gonzalez in Madrid on Saturday on his way home from an East European tour.

Mr. Gonzalez has criticised Mr. Reagan's hard-line stand on Nicaragua and condemned the U.S. trade embargo against the country, arguing that dialogue rather than pressure was the way to solve the conflicts in Central America.



U.S. First Lady Nancy Reagan gets into the act and joins a dance student in a flamenco step during a visit she made to the dance and drama school at the Madrid Royal Theatre Tuesday (AP wirephoto)

Mr. Reagan said the United States and Spain had long been friends and close allies and added: "Our discussions today demonstrated a broad degree of agreement on the kind of world our two democracies want to bring about."

He touched on the sensitive issue of Spain's membership of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) by saying that Spain was making an important contribution to Western security through the alliance.

Neither leader mentioned Madrid's demands for a reduction of the U.S. military presence in Spain — an issue Mr. Gonzalez has linked to the outcome of next year's referendum on Spanish membership of NATO.

Mr. Reagan met with Spanish leaders as part of his 10-day European tour. Last week, he attended an economic summit at Bonn, West Germany. On Wednesday, he is set to address the European parliament at Strasbourg, France, on improving U.S.-Soviet relations (See page 8).

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Libyan leader calls for unity with Sudan

KHARTOUM (R) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi's top aide has called here for unity between Sudan and Libya, the state-owned Sudan News Agency (SUNA) reported.

Maj. Abdul Salam Jalloud led a 40-man delegation to Sudan to meet President Jaafar Numeiri on April 6. A reconciliation between Sudan and Libya is being watched with anxiety by U.S. ally Egypt, diplomats in Cairo said.

Maj. Jalloud gave an interview to SUNA Monday night in which he urged the military leadership, cabinet and all political parties to strive for Libyan-Sudanese unity.

He said Egypt should be also involved because the three countries were at the heart of the Arab World. "For this reason, we in Libya are dreaming of unity between the peoples of the three countries."

He said an earlier attempt at this tripartite union was foiled by Numeiri and the late President Anwar Sadat of Egypt.

In 1979 Numeiri, now in exile in Egypt, severed diplomatic relations with Libya, accusing it of

trying to overthrow him, while forging an alliance with the Egyptians.

Maj. Jalloud's team included Planning Minister Fawzi Shakhshouk and Foreign Secretary Ali Abdul Salam Al Tureiki.

Mr. Tureiki said on Saturday Libya no longer supported the rebel Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) in South Sudan and urged its commander, dissident Col. John Garang, to back the new military leadership.

A joint Sudan-Libya Economic Committee met Monday and Mr. Shakhshouk said it touched on ways whereby oil-producing Libya could help Sudan with its balance of payments and purchases of oil products.

The new military leader, Gen. Abdul-Rahman Swaredhah, has said Numeiri left the economy of the drought-ravaged country of 22 million people in ruins.

A joint Sudan-Libya Political Committee also met here and Mr. Tureiki said it agreed to coordinate the stance of the two states in international and regional forums. They had the same views on national, African, Islamic and international issues.

Numeiri was among the few Arab leaders to have maintained relations with Egypt after Mr. Sadat made peace with Israel in 1979. Libya is a radical Arab hardliner.

In what appeared to be a move to alleviate Egyptian concern over Sudan's rapprochement with Libya, Prime Minister Ali Gazouli Dafaia Allah told a Palestinian-Sudanese committee that improved relations with one country would not be at the expense of another.

SUNA quoted Dafaia Allah as saying: "Sudan follows a free policy based on its interests and Sudan's relations with any country will not be at the expense of its relations with another state."

Palestinian commander Yasser Arafat, also in Khartoum, told the committee he hoped the new change in Sudan would be "a sign of change in the Arab World."

Similar occupations, to protest against the killings of Christians in southern Lebanon, have also taken place in Venezuela, Chile, Argentina and Mexico, as well as other parts of the world.

A spokesman for the group of 60 Lebanese occupying the Sao Paulo consulate told Reuters by telephone that they wanted all foreign troops to leave Lebanon, including the Syrians and Palestinians they held responsible for recent killings of Christians.

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CONFERENCE PROGRESS: Session Research (Al al Bait) Foundation in which Side of yesterday's session of the Fourth Annual His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan participated actively (Petra photo)

Israel issues new restrictions in South Lebanon

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli officials have been handing out leaflets to residents of southern Lebanon laying down new security regulations aimed at reducing resistance attacks on Israeli troops, military officials said Tuesday.

Under the new regulations, civilians are forbidden to walk outside their villages at night or carry weapons without a permit.

Vehicles must have more than one person in them as a preventive measure against suicide bombers and drivers must travel in convoys of at least two cars at night.

Israel, fearing resistance infiltration, warned residents they would be held responsible for relatives or friends visiting from outside the so-called security zone.

Israel has said it will withdraw its army from the "huffer zone" in Lebanon by the beginning of June, placing the border region in the hands of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia and local forces.

Brigadier-General Antoine Lahd told Israel Army Radio he had recently received large quantities of ammunition from Israel to fight opposition militiamen in the area of the Christian town of Jezzine.

He said he needed Israeli logistical support — but no Israeli soldiers — to counter Druze and Shi'ite militiamen who had strengthened their positions as the Israelis made a gradual retreat.

Druze and Shi'ite leaders, who won control of the southern part of Sidon last month, have said they will not attack Jezzine if the SLA withdraws and Lebanese troops deploy there. Gen. Lahd has vowed to maintain his positions.

Hundreds of Christian refugees who fled Jezzine to the border area near Israel began returning home Tuesday, Israel Radio reported.

Hunting is a popular sport in the huffer zone area which is Israel's last stronghold in Lebanon, and there have been several instances when Israeli troops mistook game hunters for resistance fighters.

Some 120,000 Lebanese live in the "security zone," which stretches for up to 20 kilometres north of the Israeli border.

United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar Monday said the United Nations recognises only the Republic of Cyprus despite Sunday's constitutional referendum in the self-proclaimed Turkish Cypriot state.

A statement issued through his spokesman said: "It follows that the secretary-general cannot condone any development or action at variance with that position."

The Turkish Cypriots have called parliamentary elections for June 23 and also plan a presidential election.

The U.N. spokesman who read Monday's statement to reporters said: "It is the position of the United Nations, as reaffirmed by the Security Council, that it recognises no Cypriot state other than the Republic of Cyprus."

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Soviet envoy calls for Gulf ties with Moscow

KUWAIT (AP) — The Soviet ambassador to Kuwait on Monday urged all Arab states of the Gulf region to follow Kuwait's example and establish diplomatic ties with Moscow and their allies in the Socialist Bloc countries.

Pagest Akopov told a press conference here that Moscow was prepared for an exchange of ties with the Arab countries of the region "because it is unthinkable that ties do not exist between any countries in a civilised world."

Kuwait is the only Arab state of the Gulf region to have diplomatic relations with Moscow.

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Turks banned from practicing religious rights in Bulgaria, Turkish envoy says

By Olga Mikhail
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Turkish Muslim community in Bulgaria are completely prevented from practicing their religion and are being forced to change their names to Bulgarian, the Turkish Ambassador in Jordan said Monday.

"The sufferings of Muslim Turks in Bulgaria has become unbearable in the last year and the inhuman treatment to which they have been subjected have attained intolerable dimensions," Ambassador Reshad Erim told the Jordan Times. He was replying to a statement by the under-secretary of the Bulgarian Foreign Ministry made in Amman last week. In that statement, the Bulgarian official, who was on an official visit to Jordan, said that Muslims living in Bulgaria "can perform Islam and perform their rites with the same freedom enjoyed by all other religious in the country."

Turkey, Mr. Erim said, does not have the slightest intention of intervening in the internal affairs of another country. "Yet, it is natural for Turkey to show interest in the Bulgarian Turks issue out of humanitarian consideration," he explained.

Documents and information obtained from the Bulgarian embassy in Amman indicate that "Turkey has no historical rights or whatever other reasons to claim about some kind of minority of Turkish nationals or compatriots in Bulgaria." The documents also stress that there is evidence that the Bulgarian Muslims have nothing to do with the Turkish nation.

"The Turkish ambassador however explained that there are around one and half million Turks living in Bulgaria. The minority status and the rights of the Turks in Bulgaria originate from international agreements between Turkey and Bulgaria," he said.

According to a peace agreement signed between Turkey and Bulgaria in 1919 the two governments reciprocally undertake to allow the Islamic minority settled in Bulgaria and the Bulgarian minority settled in Turkey to benefit from all of the provisions mentioned in the agreement pertaining to the protection of minorities.

Another treaty signed between the two countries in 1925 also stipulated that "the parties agree not to hinder the voluntary migration of the Bulgarian Turks and of the Bulgarians living in Turkey."

Mr. Erim said that Bulgaria "which has for years proclaimed its readiness to send Turkey as many Turks as desired, now is not even accepting to negotiate the issue of immigration."

The Bulgarian government, he explained, does not allow any involvement in the Turkish minority issue and "several attempts made by the Turkish government and the Turkish parliamentarians to visit Bulgaria have been refused."

"Since December 1984, Turks in Bulgaria are facing a nationwide campaign to change their Turkish names with Bulgarian names. This procedure led to violent disturbances in Haskovo region, 70 kilometre north of the Greek and Turkish borders and in Yablonovo in northern Bulgaria."

"Our relations with our neighbouring country, Bulgaria, have always been good and we hope to keep our strong and friendly ties with them provided that the suffering of the one and half million Muslim Turks living in Bulgaria will stop," Mr. Erim added.

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Jordan, Egypt sign scientific, technical exchange agreement

AMMAN (Petra) — An agreement for scientific and technological cooperation and exchange between Jordan and Egypt was signed here Tuesday.

The agreement was signed by the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) President Fakhraddin Daghestani for Jordan and by Scientific and Technological Research Academy President Mohammad Kamal Mahmoud for Egypt.

The agreement calls for the exchange of scientific and technological information in fields of mutual interest and the exchange of experts for the purpose of exchanging ideas, training and research and to establish scientific cooperation programmes.

The agreement provides for specific cooperation in the fields of energy, environment, data processing and building materials.

In the energy field, the agreement calls for joint research on the building industry and energy conservation. The agreement ent-

rusts the RSS to lead the research in this field.

In the field of environment, the agreement provides for study, research and cooperation in water pollution, water treatment, industrial pollution and air pollution and entrusts the Egyptian academy to lead research and studies in this field.

In the field of computers and data processing, the agreement provides Jordanian researchers to receive access to Egypt's national network of information processing and Egypt's experience in communicating with international data banks. The agreement calls for the design and manufacture of pocket calculators and maintenance of computers.

The agreement also calls for collaboration and research in the construction industry, including the construction of low cost housing projects and the use of domestically available materials in construction.

Industry minister discusses merger of cement factories

AMMAN (Petra) — A meeting to discuss a merger between the South Cement Factory and the Jordan Cement Industry Factory was held at the Ministry of Industry and Trade Tuesday.

The meeting, which was chaired by Minister of Industry and Trade Rajai Muasher, dealt with the most efficient manner to solve issues facing the cement industry and to consolidate it through a merger, according to the ministry's under-

secretary, Dr. Ibrahim Badran.

He said that the minister urged the two companies to merge in order to improve both the performance of the companies and the production of cement for local consumption and for export.

The minister stressed the need for both companies to safeguard the rights of the shareholders in the process of merging the two companies which, he said, is being done in the best national interests.

Fayez briefs Chinese press delegation on Mideast issues

AMMAN (Petra) — Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Akef Al Fayez Tuesday explained the situation in the Middle East region to a visiting Chinese press delegation. Mr. Fayez reviewed the developments in the Palestine problem and stressed the need for the establishment of a just and durable peace to guarantee the return of the Palestinian people's rights.

Mr. Fayez explained Jordan's stand and said the Kingdom adheres to United Nations Security Council resolutions 242 and 338 as a basis for a durable and just settlement and the principle of exchanging land for peace.

Mr. Fayez reiterated Jordan's call for the convening of an international conference to discuss peace in the Middle East and spoke about Israel's mal-practices against the Arab population in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Mr. Fayez briefed the visitors on Jordan's parliamentary life and the national economy and stressed the need for maintaining strong ties between Jordan and China. He expressed appreciation to China for supporting just Arab causes and the Palestinian people.

The delegation was later received by Minister of Planning Abdullah Nsour who spoke about technical matters and designs for the establishment of a sports city in Irbid, to be built with Chinese assistance.

Abu Qoura highlights role of youth in humanitarian work on International Red Cross Day

By Simonetta Carr
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — On the occasion of International Red Cross and Red Crescent Society Day on May 8, the president of the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross, Dr. Ahmad Abu Qoura, appealed world nations to give due care to youth as a major potential element for the future and a driving force behind the activities of the Red Crescent and Red Cross societies around the world.

In his message, Dr. Abu Qoura said world governments gave official recognition of these societies youth programmes in 1922 and at present more than 80 million young people are involved in humanitarian activities around the globe.

These young people, aged between five and 26, he said, are engaged in voluntary work, helping the old and the handicapped, victims of natural disasters and conflicts and distributing relief supplies and blood to the needy and collecting blood for those injured in war.

He stressed in his message the role of youth in a drive to establish

genuine world peace and peaceful coexistence among nations. Dr. Abu Qoura announced that the occasion will be observed by the National Jordanian Red Crescent Society on Wednesday.

This message was first elaborated in a conference which was held in Finland and Sweden by the Red Cross, Red Crescent Society on Peace, and was later agreed upon during the meeting of the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross in Amman on Jan. 1 concerning respect and applications of the international humanitarian law.

"We have received answers from some states supporting our appeal and I hope that more answers will come from other states", Dr. Abu Qoura told the Jordan Times.

He added that the May 8 message takes into account the fact that this year is the International Youth Year. The message was recorded in Geneva in Arabic by Dr. Qoura for all the Arab World. The same message was also recorded in Spanish and French by two other presidents of the International Committee of the Red Cross and League of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

Amin suggests national plan to reduce accidents on roads

IRBID (Petra) — The Irbid branch of the Jordanian Society for the Prevention of Road Accidents held a seminar Tuesday to promote the current campaign aimed at reducing accidents.

Addressing the audience was Irbid Governor Mohammad Al Amin who called for the preparation of an integrated national plan to solve traffic problems. Efforts on the public and private level should be concerted and int-

ensified to find solutions to the problems of road accidents in Jordan, he said.

Several working papers were reviewed by the participants in the seminar which spoke about the responsibility of citizens in curbing accidents on the road. The seminar, held to mark World Traffic Day, included a general discussion about traffic, road accidents and related topics.

Nurses organise scientific day

AMMAN (Petra) — The Nursing Faculty at the University of Jordan Tuesday held its annual scientific day which included lectures by several leading faculty members.

Dr. Abdul Wahhab Al Burullosy, the University's vice president for scientific faculties affairs, made a speech underlining

the importance of the event and the various activities of the nursing faculty during the past year.

He praised the attitude of various health institutions in Jordan which he said responded favourably to the university's request for offering training facilities to nursing students.



RECEIVING CONFEREES: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Tuesday evening receives delegates participating in the Fourth Annual Conference of the Royal Academy for Islamic Civilisation Research (Al al Bait Foundation). The reception is attended by Minister of Higher Education and academy President Nasseruddin Al Assad (left).

WAJ, Hungary exchange expertise on water treatment, supply management

By P.V. Vivekanand
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A week-long seminar on water purification and wastewater treatment, organised by the Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ) in cooperation with its Hungarian counterparts, opened Tuesday at the Professional Associations Complex.

Inaugurating the seminar, WAJ President Mohammad Saleh Al Keilani reviewed the progress made by the authority in ensuring supply of potable water in Jordan and in setting up water treatment plants to meet Jordan's needs.

Mr. Keilani said that by the end of the '80s the WAJ will be able to supply 100 million cubic metres of potable water to all regions in the Jordan and about 50 water treatment plants will be set up in cope with the increasing need for water treatment facilities in various parts of the Kingdom.

Comprehensive plans have been drawn up and projects are under implementation to ensure that drinking water will reach every corner of Jordan and regional water treatment facilities will be set up to cover the whole of the Kingdom, Mr. Keilani said.

He outlined the various phases of the WAJ plans and said by the end of 1985 water treatment plants will be set up in Irbid, Zarqa, Ajloun, Amman, Karak, Ramtha, Mafrraq, Ajloun, Anjash, Kufanji, Ain Jeneh, Zarqa and Russeifeh and projects for other regions will be executed in 1986.

Water treatment

Treated water flowing out from these plants will be used to irrigate land near or surrounding the plants, the WAJ president said. He pointed out that the advantage of the projects are two-pronged: contaminated water will be eliminated as a threat to agricultural lands and more and more land could be utilised for agriculture

through irrigation using treated water.

During the course of the seminar, in which WAJ experts and their Hungarian counterparts in the field of wastewater treatment, in addition to experts from the Royal Scientific Society, the University of Jordan and Yarmouk University are taking part, various aspects of drinking water, wastewater and sewerage treatment, industrial sewage, sludge handling will be discussed.

"It will be an excellent opportunity for both Jordan and Hungary to exchange information on their respective experiences in the field of water and sewage treatment," said Gyorgy Pakozdy, deputy general manager of the Nikex Hungarian Trading Company and head of a seven-member Hungarian delegation attending the seminar.

"It is our strong belief that the exchange of views on each other's problems are the best means of finding proper solutions," he said. The WAJ and the national water authority of Hungary are in the preliminary stages of entering an agreement under which results of research and practical implementation of water projects will be exchanged, Mr. Pakozdy said.

Exchange of expertise

"Exchange of experts as well as technology, joint research programmes and up-dating each other on the various stages of progress in fields of common interests will also be part of the proposed agreement," he told the Jordan Times.

"For example, Hungary, with its strategic location as the crossroad of Eastern and Western Europe and considerable experience as an industrialised country, can offer advice and technology on treating industrial sewage," Mr. Pakozdy said. "In any country, it is of utmost importance that all possible measures are taken to ensure that industrial

wastewater is not allowed to seep through agricultural lands," he said. "Hungary has advanced very much in this respect and we believe that this is one of the many fields we and Jordan can work together."

"In return, we believe that Jordan can help us with the results of research and projects implemented as well as under implementation," he added.

The Hungarian delegation to the conference includes Dr. Jozsef Stehlik, chief of Hungary's department of water project designing and management, Mr. Ede Szabo, an expert on "filter treatment technology," and engineers specialised in hydraulic machinery and equipment.

Specialist lectures

Lectures to be given at the conference by the Hungarian experts include topics such as "Communal, industrial and agricultural pollution sources; assessment of dangerous nature of pollutants" and "Purification and storage of communal sewage water and treatment process of industrial sewage" by Dr. Stehlik and "Hexacell filter media for trickling filter and tetraflocc tube-shaped settling module" by Mr. Szabo. Dr. Stehlik delivered his first lecture during Tuesday's morning session.

Also during Monday's morning session, Dr. Sager Al Salem of the WAJ delivered a lecture on "wastewater treatment and possible alternatives for use in Jordan," and, in the evening session, Dr. Fawzi Al Rayyan of the University of Jordan presented a lecture on "Kinetics of biological treatment."

WAJ engineer Abdul Hamid Al Khatib will present a case study on "Industrial Wastewater Treatment in Zarqa River" and Dr. Rayyan will review "Sludge handling and disposal" during the various sessions of the seminar, among speeches by various other Jordanian experts in the field.

Flexible approach to Islam will ensure progress, scholars say

By Rama Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Noted Islamic intellectuals, scholars and religious leaders attending the Fourth Annual Conference of the Royal Academy For Islamic Civilisation Research (Al al Bait) have urged the 'modification' of Islam to adapt the religion to current circumstances without changing the fundamental beliefs of Muslims.

In an interview with the Jordan Times two personalities attending the conference urged Muslim nations to preserve their Islamic personality in order to face the effects of industrialisation and modern developments.

Khursid Ahmad

Another participant, Mr. Khursid Ahmad, former Pakistani Minister of planning and development, honorary member of the foundation and a member of the Pakistani Senate, described the Iran-Iraq war as a "suicidal effort" and added that all Muslims should try to end the war by all possible means.

He called on all people to be patient in judging any political stands since politics in Islam are the last resort of "ethics" and added that Islam wants all aspects of life to be integrated with power and morality.

On trying to face the dilemma of industrialisation versus the Islamic identity, Mr. Ahmad suggested that "Muslims should see things in perspective" and that proper education employing a mixture of modern and religious education methods is the key solution in such a dilemma.

Mr. Ahmad went on to say that economic reforms should be made in all Islamic nations and that economics based on justice, legality and not usury should be implemented.

He stressed that since Muslims are living in a world full of enemies and constant struggles, they must strive for liberation, especially the liberation of Palestine, since all

religious places belong to the whole Islamic nation and that Muslims should have access to the holy sites.

Concerning the Palestinian cause, Mr. Ahmad said that Pakistan has always stood for and advocated the Palestinian cause through all international platforms. He expressed his country's support for Palestine saying: "If war breaks out, Pakistan will fight physically next to the Palestinians since it is the cause of all Muslims, not only the responsibility of Jordan, Syria and Lebanon." Mr. Ahmad also said "time is with us, provided we act and do something."

Asked whether Muslim women have political rights in Pakistan, he said that there is a demarcation of roles in Islam out "sex discrimination", an ulterior Western motive which has stirred up such propaganda. He added that there are two women ministers in Pakistan along with 21 representatives in the Pakistani National Assembly and between five and ten women in each provincial assembly.

"Since in the Koran there is no difference between politics and religion, Muslims should never compromise but rather they should be guided by the teachings of the Holy Koran in all socio-economic and cultural aspects of a country," he said.

"Muslims can not live in a cocoon and one basic, important factor is that Muslims should try to adapt to modernisation and not just imitate modernisation," Mr. Ahmad added. He stressed that adaptation to modernisation is

when society and culture are integrated, not disintegrated. However, he said that options are open for Muslim countries and we must realise that industry and technology should be linked to our scientific progress, culture and the Islamic personality.

Sheikh Hamad Al Jaser

Sheikh Hamad Al Jaser, editor in chief of the Saudi Arabian based magazine "Al Arab" and the director of Al-Yemamah Centre for Research, Translation and Publication in Riyadh, said that such a conference is a comprehensive and general Islamic meeting which all Muslims need in their attempts to tackle current issues. Sheikh Jaser called on all Muslims to solve their disputes, since such problems were created by "enemies of Islam".

Islam as a religion, he said, is flexible and comprehensive in the sense that it provides all humans with their requirements for survival. Therefore, Islamic teachings are not rigid as some believe, but are rather flexible to suit all situations and circumstances, he added.

Describing the status of women in Islam, Sheikh Jaser said that Islam is one of the religions which has given women their total rights, but he said that "it is the women who are imposing restrictions on their behaviour, not the religion itself". Pointing out that Islam never restricted the work of women in any field, he said that women are entitled to work whatever they wish, provided that they stay decent and do not go beyond the social norms of their society.

He also called on all Muslim scholars to adapt Al Ijtihad to make an assumption according to the scholars' knowledge — since, he said, it is a solid ground for probing into all matters related to Islamic culture and heritage. "God never stood in the way of his believers by leaving them puzzled and Al Ijtihad is the only solution to any problems faced by Muslim believers," he stressed.

ARA prepares ambitious JD 380m plan to develop trade, tourism in Aqaba

By Leila Deeb
Reuters

AQABA — Jordan is to spend about a billion dollars over the next five years to promote its Red Sea port of Aqaba as an industrial and trade centre and tourist resort.

Aqaba is Jordan's only sea outlet with a coastline of 27 kilometres. A copper smelting centre in the 10th Century BC, but only a tiny fishing village 30 years ago, Aqaba now has a population of 40,000.

Aqaba Region Authority President Mohammad, said Abu Nowar said Aqaba's first five-year development plan, expected to cost JD 380 million would be launched next year.

"Our policy is to provide the private sector with the best investment opportunities, with the government extending incentives and public services," he told Reuters.

Aqaba's fortunes changed dramatically after the Gulf war erupted four and a half years ago when Iraq, its Gulf ports closed by the fighting with Iraq, began exporting oil and importing weapons and goods through the Jordanian port.

Benefits from Iraqi trade have apparently spurred the government to invest more to fully exploit Aqaba's strategic and economic potential.

Jordan will be spending an Aqaba in just five years as much as in the past 30 years. Among the first Aqaba projects to be completed was a modern port, which handled 2,329 vessels last year compared to only 12 in 1952. The port facilities are being expanded to cope with Jordan's increasing potash and fertilizer exports.

An industrial zone, which includes a fertilizer plant, has been established near the Saudi Arabian border.

Mr. Abu Nowar did not detail the five-year plan would include construction of 10,000 to 15,000 holiday bungalows on hills overlooking the beach. New roads, and camping facilities are also planned.

His Majesty King Hussein has a winter palace here and goes yachting and water-skiing in the Gulf of Aqaba, favoured by scuba-divers because of its multi-coloured coral reefs.

Last month, a ferryboat service linking Aqaba with Nuweiba in Egypt was inaugurated, paving the way for more trade and tourism between the two countries.

Sultan Qaboos Ibn Said of Oman, who attended the inauguration along with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, has donated JD 1 million for a new ferryboat passenger terminal, as well as 1,000 seedlings for a date-palm grove in a planned royal park in Aqaba.

The 1,500-hectare park will include a sports complex as well as a research centre for tropical plants.

Satellite panel discussion with renowned U.S. director launches American Centre's film festival

By Olga Mikhael
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — With a live panel discussion via a satellite telephone link with academy award winning writer-director Robert Benton, the American Centre in cooperation with the Royal Cultural Centre Monday launched the 1985 American Film Festival. The festival, featuring five of Benton's most famous films, was opened by the 1985 academy award winning film "Places in the Heart" starring Oscar winning actress Sally Field.

During the live chat with the American director, three Jordanian cinema critics and experts asked Mr. Benton general questions about his writing and films, and in particular about "Places in the Heart" and "Kramer vs. Kramer", one of Benton's most popular films which was acclaimed as a 1979 award winner.

Answering Mrs. Reem Yasin Adasi, Mr. Mohammad Izziyeh and Mr. Inad Kurdi — the three film critics who participated in the discussion — Mr. Benton explained that "films are as dear as children, one should like them the same," adding that, however, "Places in the Heart" is his favourite.

"Places in the Heart" is an inspirational film which portrays life and American society during the depression period from 1929 until 1938. Sally Field, in her Oscar winning role, plays a widow living in Texas in 1935 with her two children. After the death of her husband she finds herself unable to support her family and to pay the debts due to the bank for her mortgaged house.

Morally supported by a blind man lodging at the house and by a black man working on her cotton farm, the widow succeeds in holding her family together by grit

and determination.

Unique performance

Sally Field, the famous American actress who also won an academy award for her part in the film "Smokey and the Bandit", presents a unique performance in "Places in the Heart" and successfully portrays the image of an ordinary middle class woman from Texas during the depression. The film is full of emotion and interprets the American way of life, yet used to suppress their feelings during that time. Robert Benton ends his film in a church where both black and white people sit together praying; their mutual hardship in the depression uniting them despite the discrimination and racism prevailing at that time.

In the cinema business, the origin of a script has an influence on the director's method. While some directors takes their ideas for scripts from published material, others usually write their own scripts entirely on their own and most directors fall somewhere in between these extremes, collaborating with a writer at least on the narrative structure but developing the cinematic treatment on their own.

The famous American director, Benton, however, writes his scripts on his own and refuses, as he highlighted in the phone interview with the cinema critics, to direct films for scripts written by someone else or from published material.

Inspirational approach

Benton's directing style has become known as "fluid and precise". This was emphasised after the showing of "Places in the Heart". Besides the "inspirational" image which Benton presents in this film, the director

also creates a good, strong resemblance of the situation during the depression in 1935 through a unique cinematic record of the historical event.

During the week of Robert Benton films, five enormously popular productions will be presented.

"Kramer vs. Kramer", with Dustin Hoffman in the leading role, tells a story of a father who discovers what child-rearing is like after his wife leaves. "Bad Com-



Dustin Hoffman and Justin Henry in Kramer vs. Kramer (J.T. file photo)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Jordan to host human resources talks

AMMAN (Petra) — The cabinet has decided to host a meeting of responsible Arab officials in charge of developing human resources in the Arab World. A statement said that the meeting, the first of its kind, will be held in Amman during June. On the agenda of the three-day meeting are a number of topics dealing with cooperation among Arab countries in the employment of workers, according to the statement.

Central Bank stops daily DM rate

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) will cease to fix a daily rate for the Deutsche mark (DM) against the Jordanian dinar according to CBJ sources, Al Dustour daily reported Tuesday. The stoppage is due to the fall in exchange between the two currencies but the fixing will be reconsidered in a year's time, the report added.

Pakistani religious team departs

AMMAN (Petra) — A Pakistani religious delegation left Amman Tuesday at the end of a five day visit to Jordan. The delegation held meetings with officials at the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs and toured the country's archaeological sites and the tombs of the Prophet Mohammad's companions.

Jordan to mark U.N. anniversary

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan, along with world nations, will observe the 40th anniversary of United Nations Day which falls on Oct. 25, according to a statement issued here Tuesday. It said that a special ministerial committee has been set up to organise and supervise celebrations to be held on the occasion.



More brutal occupation

THE ISRAELI defence minister's expressed concern about the increase in means of resistance to occupation in the West Bank and Gaza cannot be taken in isolation of the occupation regime itself becoming more brutal in handling the affairs of the occupied territories.

Other than the natural hardships imposed on the Palestinians by the 18 years of foreign occupation and the daily intimidation against Arabs by Israeli settlers and authorities alike, Israeli military court sentences in the West Bank and Gaza Strip show that the occupation regime has become harsher and more brutal than at any time since the 1967 invasion, a recent study says.

Five thousand two hundred and twenty-six West Bank and Gaza residents were convicted in military courts last year, 64 per cent more than the 3,339 in 1983, according to the study. A per cent of one year's imprisonment was meted out in 989 cases in 1984, compared with 672 in 1983, the study shows.

The Israeli military also detained, but did not prosecute, 471 Palestinians last year, compared with 172 in 1983.

Israel's efforts to curb stone-throwing by Palestinians protesting at the occupation are one factor behind the greater numbers being sent to prison. Sentences of from one to two years' imprisonment for stone-throwing are now routine. In 1983 two to six months was the norm.

Reviewing the statistics on April 12, the Palestinian daily Al Fajr said that Israeli military courts were increasingly handling criminal cases which were previously the responsibility of local Arab civil courts. It said that military courts had even ruled in cases of traffic violations, unlicensed building and drug trafficking, and noted that such interference in purely civilian matters was contrary to international laws governing the activities of occupying powers.

So much for the Israeli defence minister's concern about new tactics being pursued to resist his military occupation of Arab territory. So much for Israel's so-called humane treatment of people under occupation. Yitzhak Rabin and his government should know better than they profess to. They should not expect flowers thrown at their continued occupation and Judaisation of Palestinian land.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Scientific progress essential

IN AN address to the Al al Bait Foundation conference in Amman, King Hussein urged Arab and Muslim nations to arm themselves with science and technology. He said there is no place in the world of today for those nations which do not open their doors for technological advancement. Any lagging behind other nations would endanger the future of weak nations that cannot cope, making them liable to lose their political independence and falling victim to major world powers.

King Hussein paid tribute to earlier Muslim scholars and scientists who helped build the Islamic civilisation and said that present scholars should follow in their footsteps if they want to achieve a brighter future for their nations. He said it is not enough to be proud of the ancestors who built on firm basis of science, but we should rather take steps to build for our present and future generations. The Al al Bait Foundation, he added, was set up to help Arabs and Muslims to confront the challenges of today's science and technology.

Through continuous research and study and through good efforts, the King urged Muslim scholars to contribute effectively towards building a stronger nation within the concept of Islam.

Al Dustour: Revitalising heritage

KING HUSSEIN, who opened the meetings of the Al al Bait Foundation Monday, pointed out the basic elements in Islam's culture and heritage, and said they serve as a background and as an incentive for our scholars of today. It is not enough, said the King, to take pride in what has been built by our ancestors, but we should follow their examples and build for our present and future generations.

The earlier Muslim scholars, he said, had built on a firm ground of Islamic science, and were therefore able to build a great civilisation. Our nation will be lost, he warned, if it remains passive as the world continues to advance in science and technology. Our nation, he stressed, should be able to absorb modern technology and science in order to develop and to prosper by applying them in various spheres.

King Hussein called on Muslim scholars to fathom the depth of knowledge and free the nation from superstitions and illusions and legends, exactly as our ancestors did when they laid the ground for Islamic civilisation.

Sawt Al Shaab: Promoting Arab solidarity

KING HUSSEIN's visit to Kuwait marks the beginning of a tour in the Gulf where he will meet Arab leaders to discuss current affairs in the Arab region in general and the Gulf in particular. No doubt the Gulf war and Iran's intransigence and its total rejection of peace warrant such consultations among Arab leaders.

Jordanians employed in Kuwait and other Arab Gulf countries should be able to continue to help these Gulf countries to build and prosper, and the King will spare no effort in discussing the case of the Jordanian expatriates and their future. The tour reflects the King's keenness on promoting Arab solidarity, despite the clouds darkening relations among some of them. He is careful to patch-up all the rifts in Arab ranks to help the nation confront challenges in one firm stand.

On the King's mind are current world developments and their effect on the Palestine problem and, therefore, he is expected to discuss with Arab leaders the Jordanian-PLO agreement signed on Feb. 11, and ways to consolidate the Arab stand behind this agreement. King Hussein will also discuss with Gulf leaders the need for their honouring their financial commitments to Jordan and the economic aid that enables us to support the steadfastness of the Arab people under Israeli rule, and stand firm in the face of aggression.

Time is ripe for the USSR to reform

A number of opportunities have opened up for Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet Union's new leader, to implement his ideas for reforming the economy, Patrick Cockburn reports. Even modest gains in efficiency could reap big rewards.

MOSCOW — In the weeks since Mikhail Gorbachev's election as leader of the Soviet Union, newspapers in Moscow have been filled with accounts of the dismissal of local Communist Party chiefs. They give detailed descriptions of corruption and incompetence.

The dismissals come at a particularly important time. President Chernenko died in March and Mr. Gorbachev succeeded him at a moment which gives the new leader a good opportunity to promote the men he wants to run the country.

This is because the 27th Congress of the Soviet Communist Party is to meet at the end of this year or the beginning of the next. The congress, held every five years, sees the selection of a new Central Committee — the 300-strong body which, together with the Politburo, controls political power in the Soviet Union. All top jobs carry Central Committee status.

As general secretary of the Communist Party, Mr. Gorbachev will be able to ensure that the new Central Committee is more to his liking and not an inheritance, as at present, from President Brezhnev's long years in power.

Changes at a lower level have gathered pace since the beginning of the year when President Chernenko fell seriously ill and Mr. Gorbachev took charge. This year, so far, 12 out of the 160 or so

first secretaries of the district or republic Communist parties, which rule the Soviet Union, have been replaced though not all necessarily sacked. Three key ministers for oil, gas and electric power (energy absorbs one fifth of Soviet capital investment) have also been moved.

The replacement of senior personnel is likely to increase as the next party congress approaches with a minimum of 70 new faces expected in the Central Committee.

Equally important is the publicity surrounding the dismissals. The press has emphasised, possibly even exaggerated, the failing of local parties. In many cases, lack of enthusiasm for economic reform is linked to accusations of corruption.

The press is extremely powerful in the Soviet Union. It has emphasised that those dismissed must not simply be reappointed to other jobs. "Many leaders simply change seats from one armchair to another," said Pravda recently.

In a bizarre example of this, a man in Armenia, who specialised in the construction of zoos, managed to become managing director of four different enterprises in local light industry and consumer goods ministries through being on the Communist Party approved list.

How far do these changes in personnel imply new policies?

Attempts at economic reform in 1965 and 1979 under Mr. Brezhnev floundered because they were not accompanied by the removal of those who were criticised for their resistance to change. By 1982, the year that President Brezhnev died, the average age of the 114 ministers who run the Soviet economy was 72.

During his brief tenure of power, Mr. Yuri Andropov began to change this — but his reforms lost momentum as it became evident he was fatally ill. Mr. Chernenko, who had risen to power as Mr. Brezhnev's chief aide, was hardly the man to alter significantly the system which he had done much to create, although he did not block changes.

The next year will show how far Mr. Gorbachev is able and willing to change personnel and the policies they implement. His speeches, ever since he became a full member of the Politburo in 1980, have emphasised that the quantity and quality of goods produced must be raised in agriculture and industry by payment for results.

It became clear in the 1970s — having successfully industrialised itself in the previous half century — that the Soviet Union was not proving able to raise productivity, introduce innovations, increase efficiency or improve quality at the rate needed. Decentralisation, new technology and a changed incentive structure for management and workers were advocated, but little was done.

It was this need for real economic change in the Soviet Union which raised Mr. Gorbachev to the leadership of the country only

eight years after he came to Moscow as the party secretary's agricultural expert.

There is a lot to do. Real decentralisation has been very limited as ministries have clung on to their authority over factory output and the current and capital budgets of individual enterprises. "Why is it that minister, and not local miners or officials of the town of Vorkuta beyond the Arctic circle, decides whether or not the town needs a kindergarten?" asked Pravda recently.

In Omsk district in Siberia, a study showed that the director of a state farm has 26 levels of management above him leaving him with total responsibility but negligible influence over his own enterprise.

Improvements in output, the employment of new technology and increased productivity have all been hampered by the lack of material rewards for those who have introduced such changes. "Would the workers in the Ministry of Non-Ferrous Metallurgy or the Ministry of the Coal Industry have allowed their enterprises to get into such a difficult position if their own salaries had dwindled as a result?" asked a commentator recently. It is perhaps significant that Petr Lomako, the minister of non-ferrous metallurgy, is 81 and was first appointed to his post in 1940.

This year, 200 Soviet schools and 300 training units will start using personal computers — but the manufacturing base for new technology has been neglected.

These problems are long term and the present changes in personnel do not mean that the Soviet economy will be transformed overnight, but without new faces in charge, reform was never going to rise above the level of rhetoric. Mr. Tikhonov, the prime minister, for instance, is 79 years old and in operational control of the economy and the bureaucracy. He is likely to retire soon.

Mr. Gorbachev is fortunate that he has become general secretary before the next five-year plan — which will decide the priorities in the Soviet economy from 1986 to 1990 — is firmly in place. This again improves his room to manoeuvre, though lack of investment capital means that the options are still narrow.

One third of Soviet capital investment is absorbed by agriculture, with limited returns. With another 22 per cent being spent on the energy sector (though with much better results), this leaves limited capital available for the rest of industry, where the emphasis is on reequipping and reorganising plants rather than new construction projects.

The increase in U.S. defence expenditure means that the Kremlin is likely to raise its own arms spending, which, according to Central Intelligence Agency figures, has only risen by two per cent a year since 1976.

Somewhere within the economy, Mr. Gorbachev needs to achieve a breakthrough without markedly increasing investment. He has the advantage that because of the poor management of the economy since the late 1960s,

gains can be made by displaying reasonable competence.

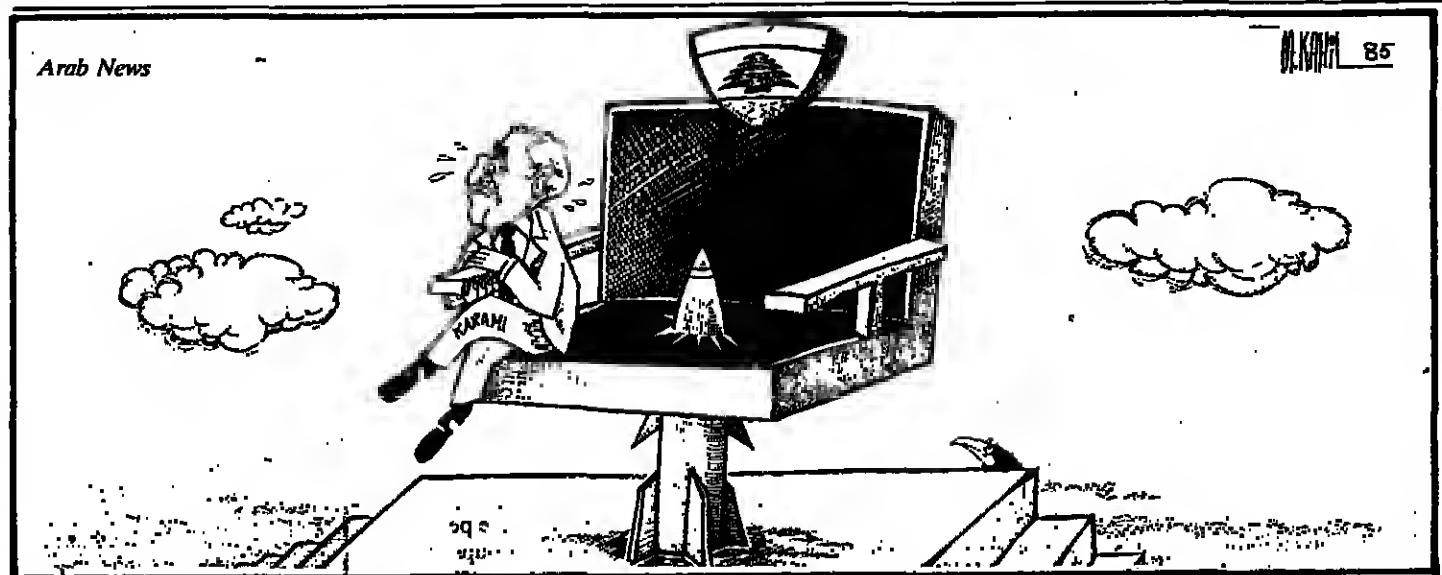
There is, for instance, plenty of scope for energy conservation. This has improved since 1982, but energy consumption per head is still 10 per cent higher than in West Germany which has a per capita gross domestic product twice that of the Soviet Union.

It will, however, be far more difficult to implement broader plans to raise productivity throughout the economy. The subsidised price of basic goods — in many cases unchanged over 20 years and a drain on the resources of the state — will probably stay the same. These subsidies, combined with the needs of agriculture, energy and defence, limit the scope for investment in the rest of industry.

Some of the rhetoric now employed by Mr. Gorbachev about economic change in the Soviet Union is eerily reminiscent of Mr. Harold Wilson in Britain in 1964.

Reorganisation, professional management and technology were to transform British industry. Hungarian economists walked the streets. The ossified traditions of the past were to be swept away.

Such cynicism can be carried too far. This year will see the end of the dominance in the Soviet Union of the men who rose to power during industrialisation, the purges and the war. A profound generational change has occurred. This does not mean the Soviet system will be transformed — but significant reform is now feasible, which was not the case when the "Old Guard" monopolised authority — Financial Times news feature.



French opposition rejects immigrant vote idea

By Francesca Gee

Reuter

PARIS — Rightwing politicians have united in a vocal crusade of opposition to a government suggestion that France's 3.7 million immigrants vote in local elections.

A recent proposal by President Francois Mitterrand to let immigrants who are not yet French citizens vote in the elections has provoked a storm of protest from politicians.

Such a reform would be akin to "letting foreign minorities or foreign states determine the French people's destiny," said Jean-Marie Le Pen, whose extremist National Front has reaped electoral rewards from a tough anti-immigrant campaign.

Mr. Mitterrand told a human rights convention in Paris last month that voting in local polls was a fundamental right and should eventually be granted to immigrants.

But despite the fact that the proportion of foreigners in France has hardly changed since the

1930s, there has been growing opposition from French citizens to allowing immigrants a say in local politics.

In 1981, the year Mr. Mitterrand's Socialists swept to power, 58 per cent of French nationals told pollsters they were hostile to aliens' voting. Last November, the figure was 73 per cent, indicative of an upsurge in rightwing nativism.

The proposed change is unacceptable, said a spokesman for the Neo-Gaullist RPR Party. "Such suggestions threaten our national identity," he added.

Centre-right leader Francois Leotard of the UDF Party, who argues that voting rights should go hand-in-hand with citizenship, has warned that legislating against this principle could create an atmosphere of violence.

Former President Valery Giscard d'Estaing said common sense dictated that immigrants should not be allowed to vote.

Positions on the sensitive issue usually follow party divisions, although Simone Veil, a former Giscard

minister and European Parliament speaker, is one exception. She has often advocated letting nationals from other European Community countries take part in French polls.

Mr. Mitterrand's own Socialist Party has avoided public comment on the issue.

In his speech, the president blamed growing anti-immigrant feeling on the conservative opposition, which he said had started building on xenophobic themes for electoral purposes.

They launched an anti-immigrant campaign only after the Socialist takeover in 1981, he said.

Communist leader Georges Marchais, who has called for concrete steps in favour of voting rights for immigrants, dismissed the speech as opportunistic.

Mr. Mitterrand admitted that although he had included the suggestion in his 1981 presidential campaign, it would still be necessary to convince public opinion.

"The president's solicitude has narrow limits: those of a speech," Mr. Marchais charged.

Even immigrant rights activists, who applauded the proposed change, expressed doubt over its actual usefulness.

Harlem Desir, who last year launched a campaign by young people against discrimination, said even people who vote, such as those of Arab descent, could be victims of social exclusion.

According to Georges Morin, who heads an association for the integration of French Muslims, about one million young people of Arab descent are, or soon will be, eligible to vote here.

Political commentators stressed that although precise figures were not available, their rate of absorption in local or national polls was particularly high and questioned whether immigrants would use newly-acquired voting rights.

In Sweden, where immigrants have been allowed to vote in local elections and stand as candidates since 1975, their turnout is much lower than that of Swedish nationals.

Testimonies uncover Argentine military terror

By Kevin Noblet

Associated Press

BUENOS AIRES — The voices are calm, sometimes almost flat, but the words send a chill to the bone: electric prod. Screams in the night. Never seen again.

One by one, dressed in their Sunday best, those who survived and those who knew people who didn't are filling into a hushed courtroom to tell about human rights abuse under the former military government.

Called to testify in the trial of nine former government leaders, they are giving new dimensions — faces, voices, personalities — to the stark accounts of brutality by security forces seeking to wipe out leftist activism in the late 1970s.

On trial are the generals and admirals who made up three successive three-man juntas that ruled the country after a 1976 rightist coup. They are accused in the alleged kidnap, torture and execution of at least 9,000 people in the "anti-subversion" campaign.

Anticipating the emotional impact of the testimony, the six-man Federal Criminal Court of Appeals barred television broadcasts of the proceedings, which entered their third week on Monday. It also decided that the def-

endants need not attend.

The measures may have eased some of the tension caused by the trial, but they have done little to dampen public interest. Local newspapers provide page after page of coverage, and citizens fill the public gallery, silent and attentive to each word of testimony.

One of the most dramatic accounts so far was that of Ramon Miralles, economy minister for Buenos Aires province under the Peronist government toppled in the 1976 coup.

Following the takeover, Mr. Miralles' wife and two children were arrested by police who held them hostage until he was surrendered, on Aug. 23, 1977 in the provincial capital of La Plata, for "questioning."

The torture began when Mr. Miralles refused to admit to financial misdeeds, he said in testimony Thursday.

"They stripped me and handcuffed me to an iron grate, then exposed me to electric shocks at various parts of my body. The pain was most unimaginable," he said. His tone was even, almost businesslike. The dark three-piece suit was freshly pressed and his silver-streaked hair neatly combed.

"At times they threw water over

me to heighten the effect of the shocks," he said.

Mr. Miralles said he was tortured six times during the year and two days in a series of beastly rounds before his surprise release.

Describing the nightmarish Odyssey, Mr. Miralles said he encountered Jacobo Timerman, a prominent Buenos Aires journalist whose arrest produced an international outcry.

Mr. Timerman, who wrote a book on his ordeal, "Prisoner without a Name, Cell without a Number," testified Friday.

He said he was interrogated by Gen. Ramon Camps, then head of the Buenos Aires Provincial Police.

Mr. Timerman, arrested in April 1977, was expelled from the country in September 1979.

He returned last year and became editor of the daily newspaper La Razon. He has filed charges against Gen. Camps, who is under arrest pending trial.

Eleven witnesses were called to testify about 17-year-old Silvia Valenzuela, who was arrested in December 1976 in La Plata and surfaced four months later just long enough to give birth to a daughter. She then disappeared again, for good.

Dr. Justo Blanco told the court

he recalled the girl being brought on April 2, 1977, into the hospital where he worked as an obstetrician. "She was in an advanced stage of labour," he said.

A police doctor and three officers who brought the girl were forced to remain outside the delivery room, giving her a chance to tell hospital workers who she was. She asked that they notify her parents. She was taken away soon after she gave birth to a baby, never to be seen again. The baby died a few days later in this nursery, he said.

Silvia's parents received an anonymous letter informing them of the birth. Its author, hospital midwife Maria Gonzalez, was arrested five days after the birth and she has not been heard of ever since, hospital nurses said.

Prosecutors have announced plans to call more than 2,000 witnesses in all, and the trial is expected to last at least three months.

The defendants are ex-presidents and former Army Commanders Jorge Videla, Roberto Viola and Leopoldo Galtieri; ex-Navy chiefs Emilio Massera, Armando Lambruschini and Jorge Anaya, and former Air Force Commanders Orlando Agosti, Omar Graffigna and Basilio Lami Dozo.

Isolated Israel and S. Africa forge close relations in all fields

By Dennis Chaplin

LONDON — They say in Israel that the telephone number (03) 25-61 47 is one of the busiest on the diplomatic circuit. It belongs to the South African Embassy at 2 Kaplan Street, Tel Aviv.

Rita Hauser, specialist in international law and former U.S. representative to the U.N. Commission on Human Rights, describes relations between Israel and South Africa as an "entente cordiale" which has "developed with some intensity" since the 1973 Middle East War, when 29 of 33 African states broke off relations with Israel.

Ms. Hauser sees it as a "relationship born of necessity" based on a common sense of "embattlement and isolation"; U.S.-trained lawyer Martyn Adebegbe, lecturer in Jewish studies at the King David High School in Johannesburg, refers to "a political alliance of two pariah states."

Certainly, these two mavericks of international affairs have discovered what Ms. Hauser calls "a satisfactory trading relationship," with Israel's scarcity of raw materials but highly developed labour force complemented by South Africa's abundance of the former and shortage of the latter.

A recent "Information Digest" published by the South African Foundation says the basis of bilateral relations for South Africa "has been the important economic, commercial, political, and strategic interest (South Africa) shares with many other countries."

In the case of Israel, this means providing "foodstuffs, minerals, chemicals, iron and steel" in exchange for machinery, electronics, skilled labour and sophisticated weapons.

South Africa already is about 90 per cent self-sufficient in arms manufacturing, turning out products from bullets to bomber aircraft; the equipment it cannot produce comes through the sanction-busting back door.

Much of this back-door traffic is courtesy of Israel, whose detailed access to hi-tech U.S. military equipment (via what arms expert Russell Warren Howe terms "technological piracy") facilitates the rapidly widening industrial base in both countries.

Effectively, South Africa and Israel have pooled their technological and raw material resources to become military powers in their geographical areas.

Israel's access to U.S. technology and its own sophisticated manufacturing base has provided Pretoria with fast attack missile boats, electronic warfare equipment, radar systems, perimeter security systems, anti-guerrilla infiltration alarm systems, jet aircraft engines, communications gear, computers, night-vision systems, the full range of guided missiles, avionics and 105/155 mm howitzers (nuclear-capable).

According to Howe's 1984

arms encyclopedia titled "Weapons", Israeli volunteers have been operating as both counterinsurgency trainers and combatants in Namibia, with "far more extensive working relations expected between the Israeli and South African military."

What exactly does Israel get from the entente cordiale? Basically, it plugs the gaps in its most vulnerable area — raw materials. Israel has benefited markedly from South Africa's advances in nuclear technology, but the greatest value has been access to South Africa's immense mineral wealth.

South Africa has deposits of almost all minerals of significance to the industrialised nations, and in most cases has hardly scratched the surface of its deposits.

These include manganese, chromium, platinum and vanadium needed for high-quality alloys and titanium, which is central to a modern air force and to advanced submarines, constructed mainly with titanium alloys.

According to the founder of South Africa's coal-to-iron SASOL system, Dr. Pierre Eugene Rousseau, South Africa has become "a large exporter of coal and uranium" and is soon to become "a net exporter of energy."

South Africa is not only backing Israel with coal stocks, providing 40,000 tons a month since 1980, but also is helping Israel to shift from oil to coal, benefit from SASOL technology, explore fresh oilfields, gain access to solvent-refined coal techniques, experiment with substitute energy forms and conduct research into synthetic fuels.

At an interpersonal level, the links between South Africa and Israel are firm.

South Africa has approximately 120,000 Jews, who are said to raise more money per capita for Israel than any other country, making them second only to U.S. Jewry in terms of financial backing for Israel.

Many leading Israelis, like ex-Foreign Minister Abba Eban, are South African-born.

The arms study "Weapons" claims that "South Africa will let Israel have as much coal as it wants," adding that "in time of war, the coal convoys will be escorted to their destination by joint South African-Israeli naval forces."

This is why Israel has been so helpful in boosting Pretoria's already sizable naval capacity.

Both countries do have adequate air transport and air cover facilities for airlifting emergency stocks. Between them, they have 31 giant C-130 Hercules, 8 Boeing 707s, 9C-160s and 43 C-47s — Arab News, Jeddah.

The bill Britain needs to reclaim parliament's hi-jacked powers

By Tony Benn

MY ARGUMENT is a simple one: the House of Commons is now far too weak to do the job for which it was elected. It needs to be strengthened in its relation to the executive by the passage of a new Reform Bill.

After nearly 35 years as an MP, and 11 years as a minister, my abiding impression is of the growing powerlessness of the House of Commons over key decisions. Political power is everywhere becoming more centralised, internationalised, authoritarian and secretive. The House of Commons is in real danger of becoming a decorative part of our constitution.

Some of the reasons for this stem from the unfinished business of 1688, 1832 and 1911. Others derive from the more recent encroachments of the executive and its wide spread abuse of the prerogative and of patronage. But perhaps the most important erosion of parliamentary democracy have developed as a result of the way in which Britain's relations with the United States and the European Community have been allowed to develop.

One reason for the decline of the power of the Commons lies in the massive power of the prime minister, other ministers and civil servants, to use — and abuse — crown prerogatives to govern us without having to seek parliamentary authority.

These powers include the massive powers of patronage which allow the prime minister to appoint ministers, bishops, judges, ambassadors, permanent secretaries, the chiefs of staff and of the security services, the chairman of the BBC and IBA and the nationalised industries; and also even to create Members of Parliament

who sit in the House of Lords. At a lower scale, thousands and thousands of appointments are made to other public bodies, including quangos and health authorities.

In addition, the government can make war or peace, recognise foreign governments, sign treaties or ratify them, and issue orders-in-council on a whole range of matters — by the use of the same 'prerogative'.

No other democracy entrusts such powers to the executive, and neither should we.

Another source of weakness derives from the way in which Parliament chose to surrender its ancient legislative supremacy to the institutions of the European Communities, under the 1972 Act. If any act of our Parliament, even though it has been passed by both Houses, and has received the royal assent, is found to conflict with community law made by the Brussels Commission or any rulings of the community court, our legislation is null and void. British judges are both required and empowered, to enforce community law, in British courts, and to rule that our own laws, even when passed by an elected House of Commons, are unlawful if they do so conflict.

An even more serious example, of the impotence of the House of Commons is to be found in the arrangements under which foreign troops are based in Britain. There are said to be about 30,000 American soldiers in this country, situated in around 100 bases, and armed with a formidable array of nuclear weapons.

The president of the United States is commander-in-chief of all U.S. armed forces. His presidential oath precludes him from subordinating his powers or responsibilities over those forces, by any form of joint decision-making

with any other government.

Contrast that with the safeguards against the danger of a standing army in Britain that we have insisted upon ever since 1688, under which the entire disciplinary code of our own armed forces actually expires, each year, unless the House of Commons explicitly renews it by passing the Army and Air Force annual order.

In the case of British forces, the Commons has real power; in the case of the Americans it has no power, no knowledge, and no control of the use that might be made of those forces in peace or war.

The problem does not end there, for the House of Commons is only one of two Houses. The other has no democratic mandate at all. The House of Lords is entirely composed of those who have inherited their seats as a result of some patronage conferred upon an ancestor, or who have been the recipients of the same patronage — favourites of the real monarch who resides at No. 10 Downing Street. "This" week that same House, elected by nobody, and answerable to nobody, had the effrontery to deprive the people of London of their democratic right to have an elected council to govern their own city.

The only comfort that can be drawn from that event is the certainty that by that act the peers signed their own death warrant. For the powers of the House of Lords in terms of delay and obstruction, and its unfettered veto over statutory instruments and any legislation designed to abolish it, would pose a serious threat to any government to which it was opposed.

There is one other aspect of our present constitution that merits attention: the supposed political impartiality of the judiciary, and its alleged separation from the influence of the executive. "Last" Monday I went, as an observer, to witness two so-called supergrass trials in Belfast, one involving loyalists and the other Republicans.

The prisoners were held in custody, under the control of the executive, headed by the secretary of state for Northern Ireland. The judges had, of course, been appointed by the Lord Chancellor at his political discretion. The Attorney General had used his political discretion to decree that there would be no jury; thus leaving a single judge to reach his own verdict and pass whatever sentence he thought fit.

These mass trials — show trials they are — are taking place in the name of parliamentary democracy. Yet, if the House of Commons were to seek to debate this matter it would be told that it cannot interfere, lest the independence of the judiciary and the legal system might be compromised.

To complete this picture of parliamentary impotence, we have the Official Secrets Act under which Sarah Tisdall and Clive Ponting were both recently prosecuted. But it is not only civil servants who are affected, for the act also draws the line between those MP's who are ministers and those who are not, leaving all opposition members and all government back-benchers in statutory ignorance of what is going on.

What we have in Britain is a structure of power that many dictators would envy. The present situation constitutes a denial of some of the most important democratic rights of the electors.

There is an urgent need to bring these abuses to the attention of the public and to seek remedies which will correct them. We shall need a new Reform Bill to do it. Such a

bill would have to establish or re-establish the power of the Commons over all executive power, including prerogative and patronage powers, and extend to cover foreign and defence policy.

It would involve the repatriation of the powers of Parliament, now ceded to the Brussels Commission, in much the same way as the Canadians repatriated their Constitution from this Parliament a few years ago.

It would require the ending of the Lords, perhaps by using the very same words as are in the GLC abolition Bill for which the Lords voted on second reading: namely that the House of Lords "shall cease to exist". And the delaying power, now exercised by the Lords, should be transferred to the electorate by shortening the maximum life of a parliament to four years, from the present five.

It would also have to mean the ending of the Official Secrets Act, and its replacement by legislation that only protected genuine secrets, essential to the survival of the state, and the rights to privacy of individuals.

We are living through a time of great domestic upheaval and international tension. People are entitled to look to those whom they have elected to this place to do whatever we can to resolve these problems, and to see to it that we take the power necessary for that purpose. I am a parliamentarian who believes that the ballot box, debate and debate are better than the bomb for settling differences, at home or abroad. A weak or impotent House of Commons is a threat not only to democracy but to peace and good government.

Tony Benn is British Labour MP for Chesterfield. He contributed this article to the Guardian.

Reagan panel supports binary weapons production

WASHINGTON — A presidential commission in a preliminary report May 1 supports the Reagan administration's chemical warfare programme of modernising the U.S. chemical arsenal, while at the same time seeking a verifiable international ban on such weapons.

Retired Ambassador Walter Stoessel, Jr., chairman of the Presidential Chemical Warfare Review Commission, told the Senate Armed Services Committee that the group believes a "more credible U.S. chemical retaliatory capability is needed in order to prevent either quick defeat or early escalation to a nuclear exchange in the event chemical weapons are used by the adversary."

The commission in its unanimous report, he said, supports the production of new binary chemical warfare weapons. Such weapons, the report said, provide the United States with an "adequate deterrent capability to meet our present needs." Such weapons, he noted, provide a "safer, separate packaging of non-lethal chemicals that combine to form lethal agents only when launched."

Mr. Stoessel said the commission also concluded that the peacetime deployment of binary munitions in foreign countries "is

not essential because of the safety and speed with which these munitions can be transported."

In answers to questions from the Senate committee, Mr. Stoessel said that some 75 per cent of the current U.S. chemical warfare stockpile has deteriorated and is militarily useless and should be destroyed, even if the United States does not produce new binary weapons. Sixteen years ago, the United States unilaterally halted the production of chemical weapons.

He said that some 25 per cent of the U.S. stockpile could be used as a deterrent "but does not adequately meet military requirements" and out of the total supplies only three per cent is serviceable.

Commenting on the commission's discussions with America's North Atlantic Treaty Organisation allies Mr. Stoessel noted that there is "great sensitivity" about chemical warfare in Europe and that the allies favour the deployment there of such weapons only at a time of need.

Mr. Stoessel said NATO military leaders feel that it is necessary for the United States to modernise its chemical warfare arsenal. Among West European political leaders, he said, there are "some who thought we should

"update America's chemical weapons and there were 'some who were neutral'."

He stressed that prospects for an agreement with the Soviet Union on chemical weapons would lessen "if we failed to proceed with the binary." The former U.S. ambassador to Moscow noted that the "Soviets respect strength" and the binary programme would give the Soviets an incentive to negotiate.

Mr. Stoessel said that the Soviets have a "great advantage" in the chemical warfare field and this is a danger to U.S. and allied forces.

In a statement on the recommendations of the chemical warfare commission, Representative Dante Fascell, chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, said: "For the past three years a close examination of the arms control, foreign policy, defence and cost implications of producing binary nerve gas weapons has led a bipartisan majority in Congress to conclude that such a move would adversely impact on major U.S. foreign policy objectives, make arms control less likely, and is not something we need or the American people want." — U.S. Information Agency.

Torture claim creates police conduct furore in New York

By Andrew Geller
Reuters

NEW YORK — A teenager's charge that police officers tortured him with an electric "stun-gun," inflicting burns all over his body, has caused the biggest furore over New York City police conduct in

15 years.

Three other youths have since come forward to make the same claim. Four police officers have been arrested. The entire command of a police precinct has been removed and the top police officer in the Borough of Queens has abruptly retired.

In addition, a leading politician called for the creation of a special commission to probe alleged police misconduct. The panel would be modelled on the Knapp Commission, set up in 1970 to investigate police corruption.

New York's Police Department, which numbers 26,200, has been dogged by charges of police brutality for months.

The issue exploded in late April when two policemen were arrested and charged with torturing 18-year-old Mark Davidson with the stun-gun to get him to confess to selling marijuana worth 10 dollars. The weapon — which can emit 50,000 volts of electricity — can be purchased legally for \$85.

At a news conference, Mr. Davidson took off his shirt and displayed 40 burns on his chest and back.

He said the officers had tortured him for 20 minutes. "I was in pain. I pleaded with them to please stop," he said. "They said they would do it all night."

The policemen arrested were Sergeant Richard Pike and patrolman Jeffrey Gilbert, members of the Street Narcotics Apprehension Unit of the 106th precinct in Ozone Park, a racially mixed, working class community in Queens.

Mr. Davidson's allegations provoked outrage. John Santucci, the Queens district attorney, accused the cops of inflicting "medieval torture."

New York daily news columnist Jimmy Breslin wrote: "It is easily the most disturbing story to come out of law enforcement in this city. Torture by electricity represents a collapse into sadism that is usually associated with foreign lands, not a New York City police precinct on a street in Queens."

Following the arrests, three other youths alleged they had been tortured in the same way to get them to admit having sold small amounts of marijuana.

As a result, two other police officers were arrested and a third was suspended.

Police Commissioner Benjamin Ward acted quickly. He transferred the entire top command of the 106th Precinct — 18 officers — and installed a new precinct chief.

He summoned 327 of the city's top police commanders to be-

quarters and warned them they would be held personally responsible for brutality or corruption in their commands.

"Command carries with it accountability and it's hot in the kitchen," he declared. "I've been in that heat. If they can't take it, they should get out before they're put out."

Commissioner Ward then announced the retirement of Assistant Chief William Fitzpatrick, the top police officer in Queens, and also said he was revising procedures for handling complaints of police brutality.

Police officers should not and will not become a law unto themselves, he warned. "Only cowards brutalise people. Real men, brave men, do not have to prove their masculinity."

But Ward's actions are unlikely to end a controversy that has been building for months.

Last October there were strong protests over the killing of Eleanor Bumpurs, a 66-year-old woman who was shot dead by a policeman during an eviction proceeding. The officer was indicted but the indictment was thrown out.

In 1983 — in a case still making headlines — 25-year-old Michael Stewart lapsed into a coma and died after being arrested for painting graffiti on the walls of a subway station. His family said he was beaten to death by police.

Excluding the stun-gun case, there have been five cases of alleged police misconduct so far this year.

In February, police officer Merwin Yearwood held his gun to the head of a suspect he was searching. The gun went off, apparently by accident, killing the suspect. This week officer Yearwood was indicted on a charge of criminally negligent homicide.

In March a police car roaring down Park Avenue struck and killed a 70-year-old psychologist and sped away. Three days later Sergeant Frederick Sherman was arrested as the suspected hit-and-run driver.

City Council President Carol Bellamy, who is running for mayor, recently called for creation of an investigative panel similar to the Knapp Commission, which probed charges of widespread bribe-taking by police officers.

"I believe it is imperative that we put politics aside and join together to root out the pattern of misconduct that is undermining the credibility of our Police Department," she said in a letter to Mayor Edward Koch.

The mayor rejected her proposal.



Brigitte Erler... believes development aid is harmful

Christian missions in colonisation. It calms down the indigenous people and soothes our conscience."

Asked if development aid was so catastrophic all over the world as it had been in Bangladesh she said: "Of course I get into a scrape when I try to go over the whole world with a broom. Bangladesh made me realise that a person who wants to do good can do the opposite."

Is A.I. a new approach to doing good? She thinks so. "My whole life has been based on a complex about helping. Society here is so complex that it didn't work here. My previous work failed only because I wanted to help people who could help themselves much better."

For this reason she decided to join A.I. She said: "If someone is tortured somewhere I can do something so that he or she is not tortured and I know that this person cannot help himself. It is quite a different matter when Western experts provide a farmer with a water pump."

The latest A.I. annual report listed 2,390 abducted opponents of regimes in fifteen countries, 5,000 "adopted" political prisoners, 21,000 prisoners in Turkey alone held without due process of law, 5,000 hangings in China without a trial, and barbaric torturing.

For someone with "an aid complex" there is plenty to do — Die Zeit, Hamburg.

German M.P. prefers Amnesty to development aid

A FORMER employee of the Bonn ministry responsible for allocating development aid has taken over in charge of the West German section of Amnesty International (A.I.). Brigitte Erler came to believe that development aid does more harm than good. She says that much aid causes destruction of structural growth and only increases the exploitation of the masses by a small upper strata of society. "Development aid plays the same role... as Christian missions did in colonial times: it calms down the indigenous people and soothes our conscience. Political prisoners on the other hand, really do need our help."

Brigitte Erler, 41, is also a former Social Democrat MP in Bonn. In this article for Die Zeit, Hans Jakob Giesing looks at the new A.I. general secretary and also at the aims and methods of this organisation which champions human rights all over the world.

SADIK LARRACH was released in autumn 1984 from prison in Kenitra, Morocco, before he had served his time.

It was an act of clemency by King Hassan.

But Mr. Larrach was grateful not to King Hassan but to Hildegard Klein and her colleagues at Amnesty International in Bonn.

Mr. Larrach, who worked on the railways and was a trade unionist, was arrested by the Moroccan police in 1976. He and his political friends had distributed leaflets protesting against the annexation of the West Sahara.

Mr. Larrach, a young man, was tortured under interrogation and sentenced to 17 years imprisonment in a show trial for "subversive activities". The case came to the attention of Amnesty International headquarters in London which passed on the information to Bonn.

Mr. Larrach received encouraging letters from West Germany which he was eventually able to answer.

On Morocco's national day, the King received dozens of telegrams and letters, wishing him well but including the request that the non-violent political prisoner Larrach be released.

The director of the prison constantly received letters demanding better prison conditions for him.

This resulted in his being transferred from a dark, dank dungeon which he shared with many others to a cell up to European standards.

He was allowed to read books and prepare for his university examinations.

A.I. gave him some money after

his release to help him on his way. The organisation regards his case as one of its successes: "Our letters certainly influenced things".

But success is more the exception than the rule. Those who work with A.I. need patience, confidence and a strong will. They must not be easily discouraged.

Brigitte Erler, 41, becomes the new general secretary of West German A.I. on May 1.

She is a former SPD Member of Parliament in Bonn and consultant to the Economic Cooperation Ministry in Bonn.

But she resigned from the Economic Cooperation Ministry because she decided that development aid does more harm than good.

She said that as a development aid worker she was helping people who could far better help themselves. "Political prisoners, on the other hand, really need our help."

Brigitte Erler began in the enormous official apparatus of development aid bringing happiness to whole regions of the world, to states, but she now thinks that these attempts failed.

On the other hand, her work with A.I. will be an attempt to do good in individual cases, without the requirement of improving the structure of the world.

Amnesty International owes much of its prestige to its refusal to get involved in controversy and by keeping its objectives modest.

The International Secretariat in London concentrates on three tasks involving its members in 50 countries:

* It seeks the release of non-violent political prisoners all over

the world, that is people who, "because of their convictions, colour, origin, language, religion or sex are imprisoned, and who have renounced the use of force."

* It demands a fair and swift trial for all political prisoners, including those involved in violence.

* It is unconditionally against the death sentences for all prisoners, against torture and all forms of inhuman treatment.

Amnesty International had its beginnings 24 years ago when a London lawyer called Peter Benenson read in a newspaper about the arbitrary imprisonment of opponents of the Salazar regime in Portugal.

He placed an advertisement which read: "The newspaper reader feels a sickening helplessness. If, however, people's sense of repugnance could be united into a single course of action, something more effective could be done."

Fourteen years later, in 1975, A.I. was awarded the United Nations' Human Rights award and two years later the Nobel Peace Prize for its contribution to "ensuring the basics for freedom and justice, and with these peace in the world."

The Norwegian Nobel Peace Prize Committee could not have found a politician whose selection for the prize was so unanimously welcomed worldwide.

The people in A.I. need a professional secretariat because no local group itself searches for those it seeks to protect.

The central office examines the human rights situation in countries all over the world, publishes reports, tracks down individual cases of political torture, and arranges for the "adoption" of a political prisoner by a specific group.

This is how the Bonn group became involved in the Larrach case, and this system should prevent A.I. sub-groups getting involved politically.

Those who want to help political prisoners in Western countries should also do something about political prisoners in the East bloc, and no one should try to do things under the A.I. flag that do not fall in to the organisation's

three categories.

There is, of course, dispute, among A.I. members about where political "violence" begins and who are "non-violent" prisoners. In order to get clarification on this point there is a borderline committee in London.

The West German section has an office in Bonn with 22 workers. It appeals for donations (DM8 million a year), publishes German-language literature and seeks to influence politicians, diplomats and the media.

The outgoing general secretary, Helmut Frenz, acquired a reputation for a courageous Evangelical bishop in Chile under Pinochet's despotic rule.

His successor will have to put up with the scepticism of some who complain because she was never a member of the organisation.

But she was asked to take over because, as a former Social Democrat MP, she will be able to find new ways through the Bonn political labyrinth.

The 11,000 West German A.I. members will not be able to complain about any lack of commitment. Ms. Erler's engagement book shows just how committed she is.

She told me: "I cannot see you on Thursday afternoon since I have to demonstrate in Bonn."

The demonstration is about the high treason trials in South Africa of 16 leading opponents of apartheid.

The self-imposed limitation of the organisation does not mean that individual AOI members close their eyes to injustice, against which the organisation does not fight, Brigitte Erler explained. She said emphatically that she could not, and had no wish, to alter the organisation's aims.

She said: "We have an awful lot of members who want to go flat out, would like to say like other ordinary people. 'They are swine in Chile,' but if we, an organisation, do that, we shall be completely ineffective."

In the 1970s, West German A.I. was made up of young people, mainly students seeking a field of action outside the traditional, and

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Laciar beats Montero, retains flyweight title

GRENOBLE, France (R) — Santos Laciar of Argentina successfully defended his World Boxing Association (WBA) flyweight title for the ninth time Monday night when he outpointed French challenger Antoine Montero.

Long-time champion Laciar easily fought off Montero's generous but often inefficient assaults and was in command for most of the bout.

South African referee Stanley Christodolou gave the champion a five-point lead at the end of the 15-round fight, and the two judges awarded the 26-year-old Argentinian six and seven points more than the Frenchman.

For the Madrid-born French southpaw, it was another cruel disappointment after his unhappy bid to snatch the World Boxing Council (WBC) title last year. He had his jaw broken by the holder, Gabriel Bernal of Mexico.

Laciar, named Sportsman of the Year in his country in 1984 for the third year running, masterly erased fears that he was weary of box-

ing after years at the top. Although walking forward to Laciar from the first bell to the last, Montero rarely looked as if he could trouble the champion. But in the 11th and 12th rounds, his furious onslaught sent the Argentinian to the ropes on two instances.

Laciar was always the snapper and cleaner puncher, hitting the challenger more than once with lethal rights, as the Frenchman tried to impose a close-range fight to place his left hooks.

After a cautious start, Laciar progressively took the advantage, hitting his opponent at the face in the 7th and 8th rounds.

In the last stage of the fight, Montero made a desperate attempt to speed up, supported by a 8,000-strong home crowd in this

alpine town.

But the Frenchman's blows never reached Laciar, who finished the bout with an impressive series of rights and lefts.

Francisco Giordano, Laciar's manager, said after the fight his champion was never in danger and fought one of his easiest title defenses.

"The Frenchman was hit very often. I think it will be difficult for him to become world champion in this category," Giordano said.

He said Laciar's immediate plans were to get married next month. He could then defend his title for the 10th time against Hilario Zapata of Panama in Monaco in July.

Montero said Laciar fully deserved his victory.

"It was a super fight. Laciar surprised me because he is very strong indeed," he said.

"I went on the attack too late and maybe I was not prepared for a 15-round bout," Montero added.

Lendl struggles past Steyn

NEW YORK (R) — Ivan Lendl struggled early but used a rain delay to plot a new strategy that carried him to a straight-set victory in the first round of the \$615,000 Tournament of Champions at the West Side Tennis Club here.

Lendl, the world's second-ranked player, beat 179th-ranked Christo Steyn of South Africa 7-5, 6-3.

Lendl, who won the tournament in 1982, struggled in the first set and could not break Steyn until the 11th game. He won the set in the next game. Then, at deuce on Steyn's serve in the first game of the second set, the rain came.

After a 48-minute delay, Lendl earned a quick service break. The 25-year-old Czechoslovak then won the second game at love, concluding with three straight aces.

Steyn, unable to handle Lendl's serve the rest of the way, found himself pinned to the baseline as Lendl needed only 27 more minutes to close out the two-hour match.

"I changed my strategy when I came back and started creating openings with my deep shots," said Lendl, who lost the tou-

rament final last year to No. 1 ranked John McEnroe.

McEnroe, seeking his third successive Tournament of Champions title, opens against 73rd-ranked fellow American Vince Van Patten.

In another first-round match, Martin Jaito of Argentina, seeded 13th, had his serve broken twice in the first set but still beat Derek Tarr of South Africa 6-4, 7-6, (7-2).

Other seeded players gaining the second round were Americans Tim Wilkison (10th) and Mark Dickson (12th).

Ronald Agenor of France earned a second-round match with Lendl when he overpowered Craig Miller of Australia 6-2, 6-2.

David Mustard of New Zealand proved too steady in the final set and eliminated Gianni Occhipio of Italy 7-5, 3-6, 6-1.

Yannick Noah of France, whose last tournament victory was in the 1983 French Open, won the \$10,000 Forest Hills challenge here with a 6-0, 6-4 triumph over South Africa's Craig Campbell to earn a berth in the Tournament of Champions.

Maradona, Passarella return to join Argentina's World Cup squad

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Argentine soccer stars Diego Maradona and Daniel Passarella returned from Italy Monday to help the 1978 World Cup winners prepare for their 1986 qualifying programme.

The Italian exiles will join a squad whose confidence has been badly shaken by defeats in Brazil and Paraguay, and Maradona was at pains to point out he was "not coming as the saviour."

Maradona and Passarella arrived home despite a ruling by the Italian federation that they play out the remainder of the season before joining the Argentine World Cup squad in preparation for the forthcoming qualifying ties against Colombia, Peru and Venezuela.

Both men will line up against Paraguay in a friendly in Buenos Aires on Thursday, but Maradona, who will captain the side, will return to Italy the following day for Napoli's penultimate league game on Sunday.

Maradona said the Italians had "threatened to prohibit me from playing in the qualifying rounds if

I don't go back," but added that he and Passarella would ask to be released from the last match of the season, in which they would be in direct opposition.

However, Passarella, captain of Argentina's 1978 and 1982 World Cup teams, said he would probably not have to return as he may be suspended for Fiorentina's match next weekend.

Both criticised the Italian federation for attempting to block their return.

Maradona said it was an injustice committed against both Argentines and Brazilians, as European players are released to their national teams all the time "and nobody says anything about it."

Local sports commentators were highly critical of Argentina's two recent performances, and former coach Cesar Menotti, who led Argentina to victory in the 1978 World Cup, said after their defeat in Brazil: "One must not presume the arrival of Maradona and Passarella is going to solve the team's problems."

ICO creates Islamic sports federation

BAHRAIN (R) — The Secretary-General of the Islamic Conference Organisation (ICO), Sharifuddin Pirzada, announced Monday the creation of an Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation to "help Muslim youth adhere to Islamic tradition."

Pirzada made the announcement at the opening of the first Islamic Sports Conference in Riyadh attended by delegates from the ICO's 45 members and chaired by Saudi Arabian Prince Faisal bin Fahd bin Abdul Aziz, President of the Saudi Youth Welfare Organisation.

Pirzada, quoted by the official Saudi press agency, said the federation aimed at strengthening Islamic faith among young people "as sports play a very important role in the lives of people and youth."

He did not say where the federation would be based.

Priceless horses 'that run like the wind', weightless jockeys and billionaires make the Derby

By Hal Lancaster
Staff Reporter of the Wall Street Journal

NEW YORK — Here we are, just heartpounding moments away from the all-important Wood Memorial Invitational at Aqueduct Park. In the paddock area, a few million dollars' worth of horseflesh parades past many million dollars' worth of nervous horse owners.

So how can John Veitch, the dapper, 39-year-old trainer of Darby Dan Farm's horse, Proud Truth, seem almost calm?

He is just pacing himself. "If you think there's tension here, wait until we get to Kentucky," he says.

That time arrives tomorrow, as Mr. Veitch and as many as 10 other trainers with horses that can like the wind congregate at Louisville's Churchill Downs for the Kentucky Derby, horse racing's most prestigious event and the first race of the Triple Crown, which also includes the Preakness and Belmont Stakes. In 105 years, just 11 three-year-olds have won all three events, a feat that nowadays means riches from multimillion-dollar breeding syndicates.

To sweep the three races proves a horse is "tougher than the rest," says trainer Billy Turner. "Those are the ones you want to breed."

For example, there is Mr. Turner's former charge, Seattle Slew. Purchased for \$17,000 as a yearling, sired numerous winners of major races and now may be worth \$140 million as a studhorse.

It is no wonder, then, that preparing for the Derby can be tense for horse and human alike. In this year's major Derby preparatory races, including the recent Wood, a handful of three-year-olds colts emerged as contenders. Upsets and upsetting decisions by track officials muddled the picture.

And, as usual in the expensive business of racing horses for sport, money played as much a part in the drama as did pure athletic ability.

Sweet smell of victory

For Darby Dan Farm founder John W. Galbreath, 67 years old and frail after two heart attacks last year, this year's race has special meaning. His horse, Proud Truth, is a son of Graustark, the horse that was denied a shot at the 1966 Triple Crown when he was injured just days before the Derby. Graustark was heavily favored to win. To win this year with Proud Truth would be especially sweet.

Proud Truth, furthermore, could restore the Galbreath family to racing prominence after a decade of slumping fortunes. The last Darby Dan horse to win a Triple Crown race — Little Current in the 1974 Preakness and Belmont — was the last Darby Dan horse to be syndicated for breeding.

"It's damn important to have another champion come along," says Daniel M. Galbreath, John

W's son, who now runs the family business empire.

Little Current's Syndication value was \$4 million. And the money has gotten bigger. A half interest in Chief's Crown, this year's Derby favorite, was syndicated for \$20 million.

"You have a lot more at stake now," the younger Mr. Galbreath says. "That's a big risk for one person to sit on." Indeed, memories of Swale remain fresh. Last year's Kentucky Derby and Belmont winner died before a syndication that some say would have brought \$30 million was completed.

Syndication revenues enable individual horse owners to compete with commercial breeders such as Spendthrift Farms and Claiborne Farms, which have big money to spend on prize stallions because of their high-volume breeding operations. Also, Daniel Galbreath points out, "they're spending other people's money."

Track comeback

With a family fortune estimated by some at more than \$300 million, the Galbreaths aren't exactly living hand-to-mouth themselves. Dan Galbreath says Darby Dan Farm is profitable and free of debt. But to return as a force in racing, Darby Dan must win big races again. "We've lost our edge at the track," he concedes.

So last year he fired Thomas L. (Lou) Rondinello, Darby Dan's trainer of 17 years, and hired Mr. Veitch. A cocky and articulate man, he perhaps is best known for his horse, Alydar, an unfortunate colt that in 1978 finished a close second to Affirmed in all three Triple Crown races.

"It would be nice to win a Derby with the Galbreaths in my first year," he says.

Mr. Veitch also recognizes the economic necessity of winning the most important races. "You could win 100 races a year with a barnful of \$35,000 (horses) and it wouldn't (begin to) cover the expense of the operation the Galbreaths run," he says. Room and board for a single horse runs about \$60 a day, not including entry fees (for the Derby, \$20,000), jockey fees, veterinary costs, travel, and running their horse farm.

Dan Galbreath has been impressed with his trainer's equine instincts ("He can damn near look a horse in the eye and tell if something's wrong") and with his attention to detail. Mr. Galbreath recalls the time his trainer corrected a stable hand for letting part of a horse's mane flop to one side of his neck and part to the other. He also praises the trainer's brutal frankness.

From laps to leather

When the owner wondered aloud if a horse the trainer wanted to sell might run better, given time, Mr. Veitch replied: "The only thing time will do for this horse is make him older." About another underachiever, he offered more vivid counsel: "The best thing you could do with this horse is make him into baseball covers." (The Galbreaths also own the Pittsburgh Pirates baseball team.)

With the early success of Proud Truth and with a group of promising two-year-olds waiting in the wings, things seem to be going well for Mr. Veitch. But he is in a ticklish position.

"A trainer can never do anything to help a perfect horse; he can only hurt him," says Mr. Turner, Seattle Slew's trainer. And some do. "There are so many good horses you've never heard of because they were pushed for the two-year-old stakes races and broke down," Mr. Turner says.

Mr. Veitch adds that cost-conscious owners "pressure trainers to get their horses to the track before they are mature and strong enough. Unfortunately, he adds, "trainers acquiesce."

That's all part of the high-risk game played with these high-strung and surprisingly fragile animal athletes. If Chief's Crown, for example, makes it to the Churchill Downs starting gate tomorrow, he will be the first two-year-old champion to do so since 1980. And he lost training time to a worrisome cough this year.

Angel Penna Sr. last year lost a chance for his first Derby win after four decades as a trainer when a "virus struck Time for a Change, one of the favorites.

For Proud Truth, the three-year journey to Churchill Downs has been filled with high hopes and high anxiety. Born on Darby Dan's 600-acre Kentucky breeding farm in 1982, Proud Truth was moved to the Galbreaths' 4,200-acre farm west of Columbus, Ohio, for early training.

Spinks to defend title

LAS VEGAS (R) — Undeclared Michael Spinks will defend his undisputed world light heavyweight title against fellow American Jim McDonald on June 6 in Las Vegas, promoters said Tuesday.

Spinks, who will be making his 10th title defense since winning the World Boxing Association (WBA) 475-pound (79 kg) crown in 1981, has a record of 26-0 with 18 knockouts. He won the undisputed title in 1983.

McDonald, the World Boxing Association's seventh-ranked contender, is 16-0 with 15 knockouts.

Spinks, 28, will be fighting for only the third time in 19 months.

Milan to bid for 1992 Olympics

MILAN, Italy (R) — The mayor of Milan said Tuesday the city would apply to host the 1992 Olympic Games.

Mayor Carlo Tognoli told reporters the decision to apply would be formally adopted by the city council by the end of this week.

"The Olympics could be the

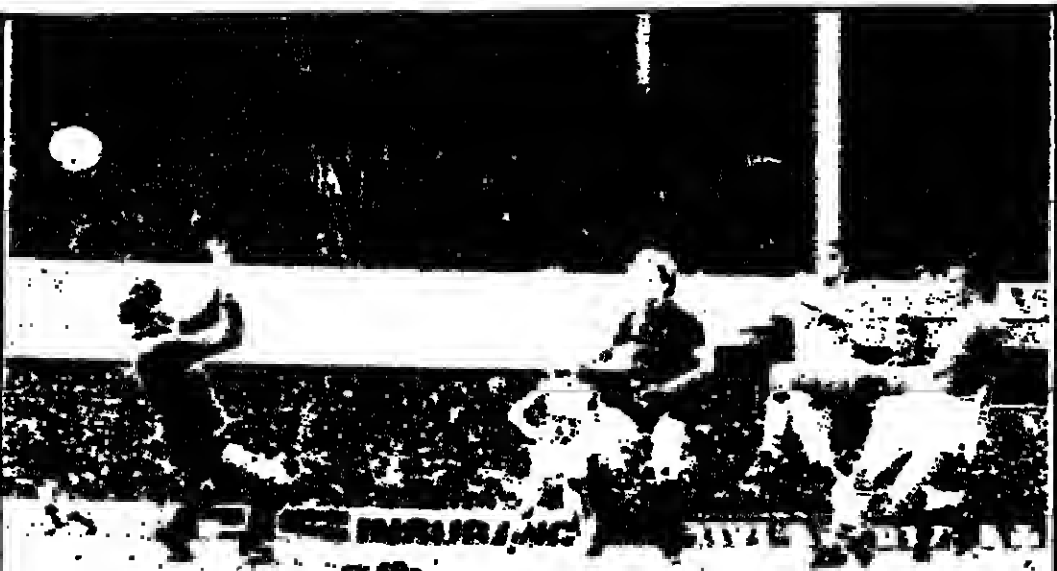
opportunity for a great revival of the city, as happened with Rome in 1960," Tognoli said.

He said the city council would act as quickly as possible in order to present the application to the International Olympic Committee by the May 19 deadline.

Plans for Spinks to fight undefeated heavyweight champion Larry Holmes fell through last month.

McDonald, 26, has had 12 fights in the last 18 months, three of them this year.

The bout will be part of the card in which Mexican Jose Luis Ramirez defends his World Boxing Council lightweight title against Puerto Rican Hector Camacho, said Arthur Watzman, chief executive officer for the Riviera Hotel and Casino.



CHAMPIONS' GOAL — Derek Mountfield (right) scores the first goal for Everton in the match against Queen's Park Rangers at Goodison Park, Liverpool, on Monday. Everton won 2-0 giving them the English soccer league title for the first time in 15 years.

Belfast opens for marathon

BELFAST (R) — Sectarian barriers in this segregated and troubled city opened for a day Monday to allow nearly 3,000 athletes to run a marathon.

The Belfast city marathon, now in its fourth year, provides an opportunity for many local people to visit parts of the city they would normally avoid.

"It is one of the few days in the year when people can mix regardless of their beliefs," said Paddy Murphy of the Northern

Ireland Sports Council.

The marathon takes members of the Catholic-Nationalist minority in the province through strongly protestant-loyalist areas such as sandy row, where, on any other day of the year, they could face trouble if they identified themselves.

For many protestants the race provides a rare glimpse of the falls road area, a tough Catholic-Nationalist ghetto in west Belfast from where the Irish Republic

Army (IRA) guerrilla group, fighting to end British rule.

"I have met runners from both communities who have seen some parts of Belfast for the first time on the marathon," John Kinahan, a senior executive for Guinness Beers, the main sponsors, said.

"For one day in the year, the Irish tricolour and Shamrock symbol are cheered in loyalist areas and the British Union Jack cheered in nationalist ones," said Kinahan, who has competed in all four Belfast Marathons.

The runners included at least one of the province's prison officers — frequent targets of paramilitary gunmen — and several members of the mainly protestant police force.



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الطبعة 1000

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Entry 300 fils - adults, 200 fils - children.

| | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|---|---|
| <p>Cinema CONCORD Tel: 44092-44280 677420 THE TEACHER GO TO PARIS (Colour) Performances 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30</p> | <p>Cinema AL-HUSSEIN Tel: 22117 CODE NAME WILDCREEP (Colour) Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8</p> | <p>Cinema RAINBOW Tel: 625155 VENOM 3:00, 6:00, 9:00 p.m.</p> | <p>Cinema OPERA Tel: 675573 BODY HEAT 4 6:30 8:30 10:30 Abdali, behind ALIA offices</p> | <p>Cinema PALESTINE Tel: 22117 1- Anger (Indian) 2- Trouble-makers in the classroom 1984 (Colour) Performances: 12-3-7</p> | <p>Cinema RAGHADAN Tel: 22188 "THE GREAT CHIEF" (Colour) Performances: 12-3-5:30-8</p> | <p>***Class Theatre*** Philadelphia FIVE DAYS FROM HOME Shows at 3:30 / 6:30 / 10:15 TEL: 3444-3449 ***</p> |
|--|---|--|--|--|---|---|

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

| | | |
|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| One sterling | 1.2035/50 | U.S. dollars |
| One U.S. dollar | 1.3810/20 | Canadian dollars |
| | 3.1930/80 | West German marks |
| | 3.6100/30 | Dutch guilders |
| | 2.6870/6920 | Swiss francs |
| | 64.10/20 | Belgian francs |
| | 9.7350/7500 | French francs |
| | 2024.0/2027.0 | Italian lire |
| | 253.25/40 | Japanese yen |
| | 9.1750/1900 | Swedish crowns |
| | 9.1550/1700 | Norwegian crowns |
| | 11.4850/5050 | Danish crowns |
| One ounce of gold | 310.80/311.30 | U.S. dollars |

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — The market closed easier, following a larger than expected 2 1/2 to three per cent rise in U.K. M3 money supply figures for April, dealers said.

Government bonds lost up to 13/16 point while share prices reversed initial gains with the FTSE 100 share index at 1430 GMT down 4.1 at 1,306.8 having touched a new high of 1,315.3 earlier in the session.

Victories ended 21p higher at 296 after 298 following ows Reliance Financial Corp of the U.S. has acquired a 5.54 per cent stake in the company while Thorn EMI shed 13p on profit-taking as bid hopes faded. Golds were mostly lower and North Americans mixed.

British Home Stores closed 10p higher at 293 after 295 following annual results in line with market forecasts while Marks and Spencer shaded 2p to 134 after 138 after full year figures slightly below expectations.

In mixed banks, Natwest firmed 3p to 642, Barclays returned to 367 after 372 and Midland eased 5p to 354. Midland said Tuesday it is issuing a £500 million floating rate note which will rank as primary capital under the new Bank of England guidelines.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 1985

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Despite benefits that can accrue today and tonight, there are some annoying routine conditions that can cause irritation unless you rise above such.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Get your mind working on outside affairs concerned with career and civic matters and forget picayune wishes.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Focus on self-improvement today and forget any private worries. Make new allies of worth.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Keep busy at business matters and don't go after personal affairs that might be difficult to handle.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Outside partners will gladly go along with your ideas, but don't endeavor to get backing from bigwigs.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) A good day to get your work done efficiently and go off on any impossible tangent. Be cooperative with a co-worker.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 21) Make the arrangements for a good time this evening, but don't be extravagant. Enjoy yourself.

LIBRA (Sept. 22 to Oct. 21) Be more concerned with home affairs and steer clear of outside contacts who are apt to be self-seeking.

SCORPIO (Oct. 22 to Nov. 21) You are able to handle business and communication matters very well during the day, but avoid such in the evening.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Concentrate on how to make more money during the day so that you will not feel lack.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Go after personal aims and you have every opportunity to gain them. Steer clear of a quarrel at home in the evening.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Use more practical methods for gaining your aims during the day and be careful in motion, especially in the evening.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) A good day to gain your personal wishes by being practical and also fair with others, but try to economize tonight.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will have a knack for making worthwhile and prominent friends and be very popular with the public in general. Teach to adhere to what is conventional otherwise your progeny later in life could get into something outlandish and lose much of the fine promise in this chart.

THE Daily Crossword by John H. Hales

ACROSS

- Desert robes
- Gaze
- Fit
- Ward
- Fruit
- Tree
- Yard area
- Room far and wide
- Major Hoople's favorite
- Monumental assignment
- Literary collection
- Current mess
- Concerned
- Impish
- Intuitive power
- Like — from the blue
- A Brunel
- Sign
- Handyman
- River in Wales
- Is troubling
- Proof of facts, for short
- Modernist poet
- Penetrating
- Slender notably
- Temporary interest
- John
- Management headache
- Kind of dancer
- Scuffed
- Logging tools
- Scound in tennis
- Social unit
- Quena
- Medieval amount
- Goose genus
- Narrow's rivet

DOWN

- Wing
- Plant
- Friend
- Ballad out
- Notes
- Esoteric writing
- Swarm of "bees"
- Hammer part
- Nautical term
- Profligate one
- Sleep out
- Dissemination
- Division of a poem
- Marble
- Pe. dialect
- Humble
- Hymn favorite
- Sort
- Casa's instrument
- Dutch painter
- Public
- dissemination
- Guard stations
- Come-on
- Rooster
- A Star
- Fuse
- Expression of commitment
- Machine tool
- Physic place
- Loon in
- Batty
- Lit.
- Mountain lake
- Author of "Friday"
- Longing tract
- Way out
- Gambling town
- Now
- Jap. money

Uniroyal Inc. agrees to management buyout

NEW YORK (R) — The board of directors of Uniroyal Inc. Monday agreed to sell the U.S. tyre and chemical maker to investors led by Uniroyal's executives in a leveraged buyout worth about \$760 million.

Uniroyal, which had been fighting a takeover by investor, Carl Icahn, said in a statement that the board had unanimously agreed to the deal which calls for cash payment of \$22 for each of Uniroyal's 34.5 million outstanding shares.

The company said its existing management will remain under chairman Joseph Flannery and will participate in the transaction, which is due to be completed in the fiscal third quarter of 1985.

Uniroyal also said Mr. Icahn and shareholders allied with him had agreed to support the buyout, end an offer by Robin Acquisition Corp for 18 million Uniroyal shares at \$18 each, and stop court action arising from the takeover attempt.

Mr. Icahn said he would give

Uniroyal the right of first refusal for any of the 3.1 million company shares he controls, while Uniroyal agreed to pay Mr. Icahn \$5.9 million.

The \$2.1 billion company, which five years ago was staggering under immense debts, has reported profits during the last two years, reduced its debts and reinstated a shareholders dividend for the first time in five years.

Fellow U.S. chemical maker, Ethyl Corp, was one of several companies reportedly interested in buying Uniroyal before Monday's announcement.

Analysts said Ethyl Corp had been eager to acquire Uniroyal's lucrative agricultural chemicals division.

Completion of Monday's proposed transaction must be approved by Uniroyal's shareholders and is contingent upon the completion of financing by Clayco, Dubilier and Drexel Burnham Lambert, Uniroyal said.

Baldrige sees slower U.S. economic growth

WASHINGTON (R) — Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige has warned that the U.S. economy will grow at a slower rate this year than previously estimated, raising the possibility of higher unemployment and larger budget deficits.

Mr. Baldrige said in an interview with a group of American newspapers Monday that the economy would grow at less than the 3.9 per cent rate projected by the White House earlier this year.

But Mr. Baldrige declined to disclose the Reagan administration's new growth estimate. "It will be very difficult to make four per cent this year," he was quoted by the Washington Post as saying.

Federal Reserve Board officials have warned that the United States

which has led a world recovery from an economic recession to the last two years, was on the verge of a "growth recession".

To a growth recession, the economy grows at such a slow rate that unemployment may rise and the use of available production capacity may fall.

In April, the Commerce Department said the economy grew at a sluggish 1.3 per cent annual rate in the first quarter of this year. But Mr. Baldrige said he expected it would grow in the second quarter to 3.5 per cent.

He also said that "if we can get the budget deficit reduced, we can come back strongly in the second half" of 1985.

The U.S. federal budget deficit is projected at \$222 billion this year.

Swedish strike hits food prices and holiday travel

STOCKHOLM (R) — A five-day-old strike by civil servants increasingly hit ordinary Swedes Tuesday as fruit and vegetable prices rose and returning holidaymakers were forced to make long coach journeys from other Nordic capitals.

Shopkeepers said prices of fresh foodstuffs had risen substantially since the 265,000-strong civil servants' union TCO-S began selective strikes last Thursday in support of a pay claim, closing airports and virtually paralyzing foreign trade.

Prices of most fruit and vegetable have gone up and they're going to be more and more difficult to get hold of this week, Stallholder Veli Ozbek said at a Stockholm city-centre market.

Unions and employers are not even talking to each other about the strike, called by TCO-S to back its demands for a 3.1 per cent pay rise. The government says any

increase for the public sector would jeopardise its efforts to curb inflation.

The dispute is due to escalate next weekend with employers looking out 100,000 white collar workers. The main effect would be to close schools — an unpopular move as in most Swedish families both parents go out to work.

Flights have been diverted to Oslo and Copenhagen and thousands of holidaymakers are being obliged to travel to and from Sweden by coach, adding up to 15 hours to their journeys.

Swedish railways said all passenger trains to Denmark and Norway were fully booked, and that no extra ones were being scheduled as this would be strike-breaking.

Ferries between Denmark and Sweden were so full of diverted air travellers that many passengers were unable to take advantage of the free refreshments.

Foreign labour alarms Kuwaitis

KUWAIT (R) — National assembly deputies, alarmed that Kuwaiti nationals now form a minority, are seeking labour curbs that threaten many Asian workers reliant on the Gulf for their livelihood.

A draft law submitted by four deputies, including deputy speaker Sheikh Saleh Fadhalah, seeks to cut the number of foreigners to 45 per cent of Kuwait's population over the next 20 years from 60 per cent at present.

The cabinet last month unveiled plans to slice the number of expatriates to 50 per cent of the population by the end of the century, but gave no indication how cuts should be made.

The deputies' draft would exempt Arabs, diplomats and non-Arab Muslims who have studied Arabic from key cutbacks. The foreign worker issue is causing concern throughout the Gulf Arab states.

A meeting of labour ministers from the member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and Oman — agreed at a meeting in Riyadh Monday on further studies on the issue.

Kuwait, like the other Gulf Arab states, attracted a large influx of migrant workers during the 1970s oil boom to help develop its economy.

But a recent census showing Kuwaitis now make up only 40 per cent of the people underscored

increasing concern among officials and members of the national assembly over the threat this may pose to Kuwait's Islamic and Arab cultural heritage.

No national breakdown was given for foreigners, most of whom are Arab, mainly Palestinian and Egyptian. But there is a big Asian workforce, predominantly Indian and Pakistani.

Diplomats estimate there are also at least 100,000 people of Iranian origin and 500,000-odd Iranian passport holders among Kuwait's population of 1.7 million, a number of whom could be affected.

According to the draft law, "non-Arab expatriates who have stayed for 10 years or more should not be granted extensions." No-Arab Muslims who have

studied Arabic, diplomats, maids and other domestic servants would be exempted.

Only non-Arabs would be subject to a proposed clampdown limiting the number of residences for each national group to 10 per cent of the total granted in any year.

Citing "economic and security" needs as reasons for the measure, the draft proposes that the number of expatriates be cut to 56 per cent of the population by 1990, and 50 per cent by the end of the century as part of the phased cutbacks.

The state is concerned that it is a country with one of the world's highest per capita incomes — estimated at \$14,000 in 1984 — only 19 per cent of Kuwaitis worked, while expatriates met 77 per cent of manpower needs.

Gulf experts call for 20% tariff on aluminium

BAHRAIN (R) — Industry experts from six Gulf Arab states have called for a uniform 20 per cent customs duty on aluminium imports to protect local industry, a senior Bahraini official said.

Mr. Abdul Mooeib Al Shirawi, deputy director of the Bahraini and Saudi Arabian government-owned Bahrain Aluminium Company, told Reuters the call was made at a meeting of the Gulf basic industries committee which ended in Riyadh Monday.

The committee comprises government experts from the six Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) member states — Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

Gulf officials last month called for uniform 30 per cent duties on imports of cement and iron pellets. Mr. Shirawi said a final decision on all the recommendations would be made by GCC finance ministers.

The six states currently impose tariffs varying from four to 20 per cent on aluminium, iron pellets and cement.

OPEC official accuses industrial countries of reckless production

ALGIERS (Agencies) — A senior OPEC official hit out Monday at what he called reckless high production by non-OPEC countries and warned of possible violent fluctuations in oil prices.

Mr. Fadil Al Chalabi, deputy secretary general of OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) told an Arab energy conference in Algiers that unless industrialised states adopted more pragmatic and longer-term energy policies there could be "earthquakes in the oil market".

"Because of the reckless manner in which non-OPEC producers are exploiting their limited resources, the life of their reserves has been considerably shortened," he said.

This applied especially to North Sea producers, who were pumping out oil at maximum levels, he said.

United States oil reserves would run out in eight years, Britain's would last no more than 15 years, and Soviet reserves would be depleted in 14 years, he predicted.

North Sea producers Norway and Britain, as well as the Soviet Union and Mexico, have stepped up oil production while OPEC has been striving to maintain a self-imposed production ceiling of 16

million barrels per day to prop up prices undermined by a drastic slump in demand.

Mr. Chalabi, speaking on the third day of the five-day conference, said it was ironic that OPEC, which has two-thirds of the world's oil reserves, was producing only one-third of current demand.

Demand for OPEC oil has slumped by nearly 45 per cent in the past four years.

He predicted, without being specific, that the weak market conditions would continue for some time with no appreciable increase in demand.

Mr. Chalabi said he expected non-OPEC oil production to continue to rise, but emphasised the finite nature of those countries' reserves.

He said that while the life of non-OPEC reserves had been cut from 22 years in 1973 to 16 years today, OPEC reserves had increased through new finds from 37 to 55 years over the same period.

The lifespan of OPEC member Kuwait's reserves was 240 years, that of Saudi Arabia 120 years and that of the United Arab Emirates 75 years, he said.

Mr. Chalabi said industrialised

countries showed no interest in negotiating with oil-producing states, although OPEC attached the utmost importance to cooperation between producers and consumers.

What needed to be determined was the framework for such contacts, he said.

The prime concern of industrialised countries had been to buy oil cheaply and manipulate the market for their own ends, he added.

Efforts by developed nations to undermine OPEC included the creation of the International Energy Agency (IEA), which had carried out a campaign to introduce drastic changes in patterns of energy consumption to the detriment of oil-producing countries, he said.

The IEA was instrumental in creating what he called artificial demand for oil in 1979.

This had created an imbalance in the market which had persisted, he said.

New oil producers in South East Asia and increased supplies from Soviet bloc states were also designed to cut OPEC's share, he said.

EC seeks to reassure Mediterranean states

BRUSSELS (R) — Mediterranean states which benefit from special access to European Community (EC) markets should not be worse off when Spain joins the Community next year, according to Mr. Claude Cheysson, the group's Mediterranean affairs commissioner.

He said Monday night the European Commission would present proposals by the end of July to maintain those countries' "current relative share" of the Community market during the transition period of up to 10 years after Spanish entry. Mr. Cheysson starts his first visit to the region since being appointed commissioner when he flies to Morocco on Thursday.

North African and other countries have expressed concern over the likely effect of Spain's entry on their vital exports to Community. Mr. Cheysson told

reporters he hoped Spain, whose farm products compete with other Mediterranean goods, would not oppose such proposals, adding that Madrid was keen to maintain good relations with Arab countries.

"It will be their responsibility if they provoke a crisis," he said. Details of the Community's proposals were not yet decided but would affect such sensitive products as Moroccan fruits and vegetables, Tunisian citrus and olive oil, Israeli citrus and Cypriot lemons and raising, Mr. Cheysson said.

Mr. Cheysson, a former French foreign minister who has argued for the political need to maintain the Community's strong links with its southern neighbours, said he planned later visits to Algeria and Tunisia.

He also planned to visit Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Lebanon after the Muslim holy month of Ramadan ends in late June.

Mr. Cheysson said Community foreign ministers had given a clear pledge to the Mediterranean states that their interests would be protected from possible adverse effects of Spanish membership last March when Spain and Portugal's admission was agreed.

But he regretted it had not gone far enough in reassuring the community's southern partners.

Mr. Cheysson ruled out financial compensation to Mediterranean states for the loss of Community markets after Spain's entry.

He said European states, in some cases former colonial powers responsible for promoting the production of food for European markets, could not ask the Mediterranean countries to cut what

are now essential exports.

Libya wants cooperation accord with EC

Meanwhile, Libya has asked the EC to open discussions on the possible conclusion of a cooperation agreement with the 10-oil-rich bloc, Mr. Cheysson said Monday.

Mr. Cheysson said the request was first made by Libyan Foreign Minister Ali Abdul Salam Al Treaki when they met recently in Latin America and was formally presented by the Libyan ambassador in Brussels last week.

He told reporters Libya was the only Mediterranean state which did not have a cooperation agreement with the EC and complained of discrimination against it by favouring its neighbours with such agreements.

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF By Harris

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HARRIS

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

SOMEQ

YUNIF

PERTIL

RETOAT

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: THE

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: LOOSE ELDER PERMIT TONGUE

Answer: What an inhibited person usually is — TIED UP IN "NOTS"

Reagan to voice new measures to reduce superpower tensions

BONN, West Germany (AP) — President Ronald Reagan will propose new U.S.-Soviet measures to reduce tensions in a speech Wednesday to the European Parliament, Reagan administration officials have said.

White House Deputy Press Spokesman Larry Speakes said the president's speech in Strasbourg, France, would contain "very important... definite proposals regarding the Soviets."

Mr. Speakes said these would involve increased U.S.-Soviet military contact to avoid incidents like the March 24 killing of Maj. Arthur Nicholson Jr., a U.S. military observer in East Germany, and the Sept. 1, 1983, downing of a Korean Air Lines passenger plane by Soviet fighters, killing 269 people.

Mr. Speakes provided few details at a briefing in Bonn before departing with the presidential party for Madrid on the second leg of Mr. Reagan's state visit to Europe.

But National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane said Mr. Reagan would announce in the speech that he has directed Secretary of State George Shultz to open talks with his Soviet counterpart on reducing tensions, CBS news reported Monday.

Mr. Shultz will go to Vienna next week to open the "broad-based dialogue" with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko, Mr. McFarlane said.

Mr. Reagan "proposes four specific measures that can reduce mistrust that has existed in the past, such as the agreement upon confidence-building measures, having observers at each of our

military exercises, working toward something on the non-use of force as a commitment, if we can get that expressed in concrete terms, establishing better contacts between our militaries," Mr. McFarlane said.

According to CBS, such contacts would include a hotline between the Defence Department and the Soviet Defence Ministry and regular meetings between U.S. and Soviet commanders.

Mr. Reagan had made such proposals before, but White House officials hope to win a more positive Soviet response by presenting them as a package in a major speech in Europe, CBS said.

The State Department, defending the "Star Wars" programme against criticism by the Soviet Union, said Monday the programme would provide "powerful incentives to stop the arms race" and threatens to stop it.

Responding to statements by Soviet Defence Minister Sergei Sokolov, the department said Marshal Sokolov was reiterating "a well-known Soviet line" when he claimed over the weekend that the programme threatened to upset the military balance.

Marshal Sokolov, in his first major policy comments since taking over as Soviet defence minister in December, warned if the United States went ahead with a space-based defence system the

Soviet Union has "no choice but to take reply measures."

The State Department, through spokesman Edward Djerejian, took sharp issue, calling Sokolov's remarks unwarranted, untrue and part of a propaganda campaign.

In fact, the department said, it is the Soviet space programme that "has long been heavily oriented toward military purposes."

The statement, read to reporters by Djerejian, said the Soviets possess the world's only operational anti-ballistic missile system and have constructed two ground-based high energy TST lasers with anti-satellite capabilities.

Star Wars, by contrast, is a research programme designed to find out if new technologies can provide a more stable deterrence, the department said.

"It is not a weapons development programme as Sokolov suggests," the statement said. "Indeed, as research effort, SDI does not even represent a development programme."

The department said if the United States had the Soviet Union decided at the arms control negotiations in Geneva to deploy space defences the two sides would negotiate an arrangement providing for "maximum stability."

Marshal Sokolov, in an interview with TASS, the Soviet news agency, was quoted as saying SDI (Strategic Defence Initiative) research posed a greater hazard to peace than the atom bomb.

"We think that this remark is unwarranted," the department said.



KING RECEIVES ARAFAT: His Majesty King Hussein confers Tuesday evening at Al Nadwa Palace with PLO leader Yasser Arafat who arrived in Amman yesterday evening.

Soviet prisoners reportedly killed in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) — Twenty-four Soviet and Afghan prisoners of war were killed when they tried to escape from an Islamic guerrilla base in Pakistan, the Soviet ambassador to Pakistan said Tuesday.

Ambassador V.S. Smirnov told the Associated Press (AP) by telephone that the Soviet Union was considering lodging a formal complaint with the Pakistan government for allowing the guerrillas to keep Soviet prisoners on Pakistani territory, which he said violated international law.

"We are fully aware that they have been doing this and my government is considering making a protest," he said. Mr. Smirnov was the first Soviet official to confirm that Soviet prisoners were being held at a guerrilla base near the city of Peshawar and that the prisoners attempted to escape and were killed on April 27.

The Pakistani government last week denied that any Soviet prisoners were being held in the country. The incident at the guerrilla camp was between two rival guerrilla factions and one man was killed and several injured when an ammunition dump was blown up, the government said.

Twelve Soviet prisoners and 12 Afghan government soldiers were being held at the base when they overpowered a guard and escaped, Mr. Smirnov said. The prisoners seized a weapons storehouse and demanded to be handed over to the Soviet embassy, he said.

The guerrillas opened fire on the prisoners, who then blew themselves up to destroy the large stocks of weapons and ammunition and prevent being recaptured, the ambassador said.

Afghan guerrilla sources, who declined to be named, said recently that Soviet prisoners were being held at the camp and that there had been an escape attempt. The prisoners seized an arsenal and negotiated with guerrilla leaders for several hours before the guerrillas opened fire, the sources said.

The sources told the AP that 13 Soviets were killed, but they said nothing at the time about Afghan army prisoners.

Soviet officials were checking to see if any more Soviet soldiers are being held in Pakistan, Mr. Smirnov said. The embassy had no reports of any others as yet, he said.

The Soviet Union has an estimated 115,000 troops in Afghanistan supporting the country's Communist government in its battle with Islamic guerrillas. The guerrillas operate from bases in Pakistan and Iran, but Pakistan says it provides only humanitarian aid to Afghan refugees and there are no military operations.

EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE, California (R) — U.S. space agency officials say the ingenuity of the space shuttle crew during a week-long mission that ended Monday should stop all questioning of the value of manned space flight.

The orbiter Challenger, carrying the European-developed Spacelab, had only minor flight problems but animal hygiene failures and a fasting monkey were only two onboard difficulties that tested the seven astronauts.

The three mission specialists and two payload specialists, aided by experts on earth, activated or repaired all but one of 15 experiments. A French wide-angle camera designed to photograph stars was the failure.

Space agency officials said that record of the flight which ended Monday with a picture-perfect landing on a desert lakebed here should kill any doubts about the wisdom of sending people into space in era of powerful computers.

2 Hindus killed, curfew imposed on Punjab town

CHANDIGARH, India (R) — Dharawal town in Punjab state was put under curfew Tuesday after Sikh extremists shot dead two Hindus to spark more violence, police said.

A police spokesman said six extremists killed Ramesh Kumar, son of Ram Ladhya, a leader of Congress (I) Party, and a servant at their farm Monday night.

Hindus later gathered in the main market, stoned Sikh shops and beat up three Sikhs on the road, he said, adding the situation was likely to remain very tense Tuesday, when the two men are due to be cremated.

Mr. Gandhi has given top priority to solving problems in the Punjab, where Sikh extremists are pressing for an independent state. His several major peace initiatives have been marred by violence.

On Saturday, two policemen were killed and one seriously injured in a shoot-out with a Sikh extremist in Chandigarh, the state capital. The extremist was arrested.

Dharawal, an industrial town, has a Hindu majority and the countryside around it is populated

mainly by Sikhs.

The Press Trust of India news agency reported Tuesday that part of a controversial sacred building in Amritsar's Golden Temple, the Sikhs' holiest shrine, had collapsed.

It said a 2.5-metre long section of the Akal Takht, seat of the highest Sikh religious authority, fell to the ground Monday night. Many devotees fled in panic but none was injured, it added.

The five Sikh high priests have said they plan to demolish and rebuild the Akal Takht. It was restored last year after being damaged in savage fighting between troops and separatists campaigning for an independent Sikh nation.

The first restoration was led by Santa Singh, head of a breakaway Sikh sect called Nihangs. Santa Singh was excommunicated by the priests for carrying out the work without their permission.

FTI quoted G.S. Tohra, leader of the powerful Sikh temple management committee, as saying the committee would meet on May 11 to decide when to launch the reconstruction.

Greek parliament passes amendments

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — Parliament on Tuesday approved a series of amendments to Greece's 10-year-old constitution, opening the way for dissolution of the legislative body and an early election next month.

In a second vote, the 295 lawmakers present in parliament passed the constitutional revisions limiting the president's powers by 182 votes in favour to 113 against.

All 166 deputies from Premier Andreas Papandreu's Panhellenic Socialist Movement shouted "yes to all" (the 11 amendments) as their names were called.

The 12 Moscow-line Greek Communist lawmakers and a handful of independents also backed the amendments stripping the president of his executive powers, which required a three-fifths majority in the 300-member house in two separate votes.

Parliamentary officials said a decree proclaiming a trial election on June 2 would be posted outside the building later Tuesday.

"This parliament's work has historic and very significant," Mr. Papandreu told the single-chamber parliament, referring both to the controversial amendments and a raft of reformist legislation passed during three-and-a-half years of Socialist rule in Greece.

The constitutional amendments must be ratified in the new parliament before they can go into effect.

They were initially approved by a 182-vote majority on April 6. The revisions will remove the head of state's right to fire the prime minister, dissolve parliament, call a referendum, declare war or grant amnesties for political crimes. Such powers will be transferred to the premier and parliament.

The June election, called almost six months before the Socialist's four-year term runs out in November, will resolve a political crisis that blew up when conservative President Constantine Caramanlis resigned in March.

Trout also said a U.S. Air Force KC-135 refueling plane received a mayday call at about the same time the other helicopter saw the oil slick.

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Search for U.S. Marine survivors ends

TOKYO (Agencies) — Seventeen U.S. Marines whose helicopter crashed into the sea off southern Japan were presumed dead Tuesday when the search for survivors was called off, a spokesman for American forces in Japan said.

The search continued all through the night," said Capt. Dan Trout, a Marine corps public affairs officer at Kadana Air Base in Okinawa.

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According to Lt. Gary Shroust, a public affairs officer at the U.S. Navy Base at Yokosuka, south of Tokyo, the pilot reported by radio that he was experiencing mechanical problems and was turning back to Iwakuni. This was followed by an emergency call.

A Marine corps news release

Thai warplanes attack Vietnamese intruders

CHANTHABURI, Thailand (R) — Thailand sent its warplanes against Vietnamese troops inside Thai territory Tuesday as marines advanced to push the intruders back across the Kampuchean border, a Thai military commander said.

Vice-Admiral Prasert Nookhamsiri told Reuters at his headquarters here, 65 kilometres from the border, that 800 to 1,200 Vietnamese soldiers were dug in along a seven-kilometre stretch of mountainous countryside 500 to 1,500 metres inside Thailand.

He said the Vietnamese entered Thailand in late April in pursuit of about 1,000 Khmer Rouge guerrillas.

Adm. Prasert said the drive to push back the intruders began last Saturday but Thai forces had to advance very slowly — "it's very tedious because every step of the way has been heavily mined by the Vietnamese."

He refused to say how many Thai troops were involved in the operation or the number of aircraft supporting them.

So far one Thai soldier and eight Vietnamese had been killed and 14 Thais wounded, Adm. Prasert said.

Adm. Prasert said the Vietnamese troops inside Thailand were supported by cross-border artillery and mortar fire.

He added that sporadic Vietnamese intrusions had taken place in Thailand's Chanthaburi-Trat border area since the start of the year but it was only in late April that significant groups of Hanou's troops were discovered dug-in on Thai soil.

The Khmer Rouge guerrillas had broken up into small groups, infiltrated back into Kampuchea and were now trying to get in position to hit the Vietnamese from the rear, he said.

The Khmer Rouge is one of three groups in a coalition recognised by the United Nations.

must be ratified in the new parliament before they can go into effect.

They were initially approved by a 182-vote majority on April 6. The revisions will remove the head of state's right to fire the prime minister, dissolve parliament, call a referendum, declare war or grant amnesties for political crimes. Such powers will be transferred to the premier and parliament.

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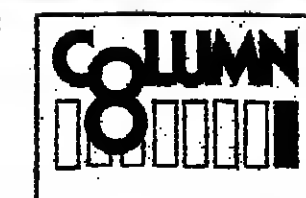
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Dove war brings guns, rude signs and Brigitte Bardot

LESPARRE, France (R) — Adrenaline over turtle doves has brought a lot of guns and rude signs, an angry former sex queen and a home-made bomb, which was harmlessly defused, to the normally tranquil Medoc region of south-west France. The massed weaponry belong to thousands of hunters who have gathered to defend their traditional, but illegal practice of shooting turtle-doves on their migratory return from Africa. The ex-film star is Brigitte Bardot, who has emerged as the champion of hundreds of ecologists equally determined to prevent the annual slaughter. The two sides assembled for rival demonstrations but police kept them well apart and foiled Bardot's attempt to track down and confront the hunters. The animal welfare campaigner, disregarding explicit signs questioning her femininity, said she hoped the police would be equally conscientious in protecting the unsuspecting doves.

Centre denies trying to cross human, rat cells

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — One of the world's leading centres in test-tube baby techniques denied Tuesday that it tried to cross human and rat cells in Australia. "Humano-animal hybridisation is illegal in Victoria (state)," said the statement by the Queen Victoria Medical Centre in Melbourne, a pioneer in multiple test-tube baby births. "The fertilisation team has never contemplated or performed such experiments and all members of the staff are totally opposed to them, under any circumstances whatsoever," it said. "We see no place for investigations using gametes (a mature germ cell) of human beings and animals in combination," said the statement. Julian Anderson, president of the youth wing of the National Party, told the Associated Press that he had heard of such an experiment using cells of a human and a rat at a conference of the Queensland Young Nationals to discuss officer legislation on test-tube babies. Anderson said he believed the experiment failed, but he was not certain. He had no further information. The National Party is one of Australia's three major political parties.

Convict marks 30 years on death row

TOKYO (R) — A 93-year-old convict Tuesday marked his 30th anniversary on death row amid controversy over whether he should at last be freed. Sadamichi Hirasawa, a frail former artist, was found guilty of robbing a bank after murdering 12 of its staff by posing as a health official, saying there was a dysentery threat and inducing them to take an 'antidote' which turned out to be poison. He has been on death row since May 7, 1955. Defence lawyers say Hirasawa was innocent and the real killer was a former Japanese army chemical warfare specialist. They maintain that this was hushed up. Hirasawa's 17th appeal for a retrial and his fifth appeal for an amnesty are now being considered by the authorities.

Man held for stomping on feet refuses release

NASHVILLE, Tennessee (AP) — A man arrested more than 40 times in the last 15 years for stomping on women's feet says he doesn't want to be released from prison for fear he'll start up where he left off. George Mitchell, 36, said he has thought of killing himself because he can't stop stomping on feet and hasn't found anyone who can help him. "I'd rather be dead than stomp on another woman's foot," he said in a recent interview. "It's uncontrollable."

During the past 15 years, Mitchell has been out of jail less than 11 months. He is scheduled to be released from prison on June 4 after serving a two-year sentence for aggravated assault for using heavy wooden shoes to tread on the feet of three women. "The next thing I know is that I'm busted," he said. "My stomach tightens up and I shake when I do it. I don't want to do it. There's been too damn many of them. I'm sick of it — all the publicity. But there ain't a damn thing I can do about it. I'm mixed up right now, but I ain't no bad person." According to police records, the 6-foot-3 (191 cm), 72.6 kilogram Mitchell stomps or sometimes drops books on women's feet.

U.S. envoy to boycott Moscow parade

WASHINGTON (R) — The Reagan administration has said that U.S. Ambassador Arthur Hartman would boycott Moscow's World War II victory parade on Thursday, partly because of the killing of a U.S. major in East Germany.

The State Department said its Moscow ambassador had boycotted military parades in Moscow

since what it called the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1979.

"Furthermore, Ambassador Hartman's absence from the VE-Day parade and speech signifies our revulsion at the killing of Major (Arthur) Nicholson," it said.

Further, it said, "the Soviets are depicting VE-Day only in terms of old hostilities and grievances, not

on the themes of peace and reconciliation, which are the themes we believe are appropriate."

Major Nicholson, a member of the U.S. liaison mission, was shot and killed by a Soviet guard in East Germany on March 24.

Moscow said he was spying on a military installation. Washington said he was on a legitimate inspection mission.

Yugoslavia prepares V-day parade amid signs of unease

BELGRADE (R) — Yugoslavia's armed forces are rehearsing a Soviet-style military spectacular to mark World War II victory day amid signs of unease over the message it might carry and grumbles over its cost.

The Communist authorities have mobilised 6,700 troops and civilians and will field 50 types of weapons, many of Soviet design, in a nine-kilometre procession in Belgrade on May 9.

It will be non-aligned Yugoslavia's first military parade in 10 years.

But with the country in the throes of an economic crisis and warnings by officials that conditions are ripe for the growth of a political opposition, its staging has stirred suspicions over exactly what message it is intended to convey.

Mladina, an official youth newspaper in the Republic of Slovenia, voiced the suspicions of some Yugoslav intellectuals when

it said the parade's ulterior aim will be to warn potential political opponents to think twice about getting organised.

Slovenian officials of the Communist-led Socialist Alliance have said a peace rally would have been more appropriate to commemorate Yugoslavia's 1.7 million war dead.

Mladina also said the cost — 1.3 billion dinars (\$5 million) made the parade an extravagance for a country struggling to repay a \$19 billion foreign debt.

Authorities argue however that it will provide a rare chance to show the Yugoslav taxpayer where his contribution to the defence budget goes. They deny any ulterior motives.

Col. Gen. Milan Djedjic, assistant federal secretary for national defence, said: "The last parade took place 10 years ago and this is the best occasion to show the people our achievements in armaments."

Ariane - 3 to blast off with two satellites

PARIS (R) — Europe is scheduled to fire the next round in its battle with the United States for the booming commercial space market with a dual satellite launch by the ArianeSpace Consortium.

Countdown was proceeding normally for the launch of an Ariane-3 rocket carrying communications satellites for the French government and the American GTE Spacenet Corporation.

ArianeSpace officials said blast-off from Kourou in French Guiana was scheduled to take place between 8.56 p.m. (2356 GMT) and 10.28 p.m. (0128 GMT Wednesday).

The launch, the 13th in the Ariane series, follows a succession of setbacks for the rival U.S. space shuttle. Officials in Paris said they hoped a successful mission would lead to further orders for Europe.

ArianeSpace, a private consortium of manufacturers and banks led by France's National Centre for Space Studies, is bidding for a 30 per cent share of the communications satellite market, which is growing by 10 per cent a year.

It has orders for 32 satellites and 12 options, half of them from outside Europe, which are together worth about \$750 million. Wednesday's flight alone is worth \$60 million.

If all goes well, the two satellites, each weighing more than 1,200 kilograms will be placed in orbits 36,000 kilometres above the earth.

The French Telecom IB satellite will complete a system providing telephone, video and data transmission links between France and its Caribbean and Indian Ocean territories.

The American G-Star 1 is the first in a new series developed by GTE Spacenet to provide telecommunications throughout the United States, including Alaska and Hawaii.

Both are designed to function for between seven and 10 years. Officials at the ArianeSpace headquarters south of Paris said they planned to increase the launch rate to between six and eight a year by 1987, with an annual turnover of more than 2,500 million francs (about \$250 million).

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
1984 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

POWER AND GUILE

East: West vulnerable. South deals
N ♠ 543
♥ A843
♦ QJ
♣ 862
WEST
♠ 22
♥ 752
♦ A1098
♣ AQJ93
EAST
♠ 76
♥ C10976
♦ C78432
♣ 107

showed out on the third round, declarer could not afford to overtake with the table ace. Now declarer had to reach dummy to take a discard on the ace of hearts. He was unfortunate in that his spade spots were such that the trump suit did not provide a line of communication. (Incidentally, note that if the minor suits in either declarer's hand or dummy were reversed, the hand would have presented no problem.)

Declarer tried to be clever. He led a low diamond. Unfortunately, West worked out that, if his partner held the king, it made no difference which card he played; but if declarer held the king, the diamond honors on the board would provide an entry unless declarer held specifically a doubleton king. So West rose with the ace of diamonds and returned a diamond, to lose three club tricks for down one.

This was a hand for power. Since West was marked with the ace of diamonds, declarer should simply have led the king of diamonds. West is forced to hold up the ace. Now declarer continues with a diamond. West wins and, while he has succeeded in keeping dummy from obtaining an entry, he has end played himself. A diamond continuation presents declarer with a ruff suit, and a club gives declarer a trick in the suit. Either way, the contract is home.

On occasion you have a choice of ways to achieve your end—power or guile. Some of us have a natural tendency toward deceit. However, given the option, it is usually wise to choose the power line. Consider this hand.

South needed no more than a sign of life from his partner to jump to game. As the cards lie, three no trump would have been a laydown, but we cannot attach blame to South for preferring the major-suit game.

Against four spades West led the top of his heart doubleton. Declarer won and drew trumps in two rounds, then cashed the remaining high hearts in hand. When West